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No. 288

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BURMA

BRIEFS

POPPY DESTRUCTION CAMPAIGN--A regional security group, comprising police, people's militia and departmental personnel under the leadership of (U-gaung Thanai) Township People's Council executive U Ti Zaw Aung, township party unit committee member U Hka Man Gan and U Bo Aung Win of 86th Infantry Regiment, destroyed a total of 107 acres of poppy--16 acres on 15 February at a place beside Kawan Stream marked as NS 2574 and NS 2468 on the map; and 91 acres on 17 February at a place beside Tanai Stream marked as NS 8074 on the map. [Text] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0130 GMT 28 Feb 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

POSSESSION, TRAFFICKING EQUATED UNDER NEW BILL

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 15 Jan 77 p 10

[Excerpts] Handsome rewards, as much as \$20,000 to \$30,000, had been given to informers whose information had led to the arrests of drug traffickers, Law Minister and Attorney General Tan Sri Abdul Kadir Yusof told the Dewan Negara today.

He said some informers had refused to take the rewards because they regarded such actions as a service to the nation.

The Government had never publicised this matter because it wanted to protect informers, he added when winding up the debate on the Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill.

He assured the people that the Government would always keep the identity of informers and their information a secret.

"Should there be any leakage, I can assure the people that it won't come from the authorities, " he added.

"I am aware that an informer in Perlis was murdered sometime after he had given information leading to the arrest of a drug trafficker in the State. But the murder was not the result of a leakage of his identity or of the information given. On the contrary, it might have been his own fault because he was spending lavishly soon after he obtained his reward."

Tan Sri Kadir said that of the 330 Malaysians arrested abroad for trafficking drugs, about 25 per cent of them had obtained the drugs from Malaysia. The rest had obtained their supplies from other countries. Further, they had been away from Malaysia for some years.

He said the introduction of the death penalty for drug trafficking had forced pedlars to operate from Bangkok.

Earlier, Tan Sri Kadir said at present the definition of trafficking in the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance did not include possession.

Under the new provision, any person who is found in possession of 100 grams of heroin or morphine, or 1,000 grams of prepared opium, or 5 kilograms of raw opium, or 200 grams of cannabis or cannabis resin or more, otherwise than in accordance with the authority of the ordinance or any other written law, shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, to be trafficking the said drug.

The Bill was passed.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

PERAK POLICE DISCLAIM LONDON DRUG REPORT

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Jan 77 p 10

[Excerpts] Ipoh [town in Perak state] has once again hit the headlines around the world -- and of course it involved drugs. The recent May Wong drug trial in London did it.

It seems that it is still difficult to erase the notion that Ipoh is or was the centre for international drug trafficking.

The May Wong case however raised a storm here. A London Metropolitan police spokesman was quoted as saying that the arrest and conviction of May Wong and members of her drug squad on conspiracy to supply Chinese heroin in London led to the closing down of a Chinese heroin factory in Ipoh.

Perak police have a different story. They deny that the police had conducted operations which led to the closing down of a Chinese heroin factory in Ipoh.

"I have no knowledge of such a factory operating in Ipoh or anywhere in the state," said the CPO, Deputy Commissioner Yuen Yuet Leng, adding that the Perak police had not made any arrests in connection with May Wong's case or as a result of her conviction.

The drug picture became even more complicated when the director of the Central Narcotics Bureau said that the CNB had information that there are three underground laboratories processing morphine and opium in Peninsular Malaysia. He however did not say where the factories were located.

Whether there is or was a heroin factory in Ipoh, only the police, the CNB and Customs will know. What is disturbing is that Ipoh is being continuously mentioned, not in local circles alone but internationally.

First, a whole series of arrests were made in some European capitals, of young drug couriers originating from Ipoh. That was sufficient to paint a black name for Malaysia. The Customs in Europe strip almost every Malaysian from Ipoh.

Now we hear of a drug factory in Ipoh. Last year 101 pushers and 679 addicts were arrested in Perak: 9.944 kilograms of heroin were seized together with 819.34 grams of candu [prepared opium] and more than 600 grams of morphine.

It was disclosed that 37 people involved in drug trafficking in the state were sent to Pulau Jerejak, 10 were put under restricted residence and police were awaiting decision from the Home Ministry for action to be taken on about 10 more people.

The drug supply for Malaysia originates from the golden triangle, a mountainous region about twice the size of Peninsular Malaysia. The region is said to produce about 700 tons of candu a year which can be refined into 70 tons of heroin. This is about six tons per month or one-fifth of a ton per day. One ton is 2,740 pounds or 1,000 kilograms.

The director of the CNB said in Ipoh recently that on a rough estimation, the heroin needs of drug abusers in the country do not exceed two kilograms per day, or one per cent from the production of heroin from the golden triangle.

The director also pointed out the lucrativeness of the drug trade. One can confidentially buy one kilogram of heroin at \$10,000 in Thailand and sell on the black market in Malaysia at \$20,000 per kilogram or \$20 per gram.

Since one gram can provide 220 shots, with each shot costing \$4, the pusher can make a profit of between \$600 and \$700 from just one gram.

One kilogram of heroin at \$10,000 here can also be sold for anything within \$500,000.

With such good profits to be gained overnight, these unscrupulous people will do anything including going to the extent of giving the initial four or five shots free until the person becomes an addict.

A daily \$8 for drugs alone is the minimum among addicts, while \$40 to \$50 is the daily average among heroin users; some of the well-off addicts even consume about \$100 worth of drugs a day.

There are estimated to be 150,000 addicts in the country. Some feel that the problem would not have been as great as it is today had the authorities acted speedily and nipped it in the bud.

Dr. S. Underwood of Kuala Kangsar said that the government had been warned of the drug problem about eight years ago and if it had taken action, it could have saved hundreds of thousands of young people from drug addiction.

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

COURT SENTENCES BOATMAN TO DEATH FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 18 Feb 77 p 8 BK

/Excerpt/ Singapore, Thursday--The High Court today sentenced a 58-year-old boatman from Penang to death for heroin trafficking at the Woodlands customs checkpoint last June.

Tan Ah Lam, a father of three, was found guilty by Mr Justice Kulasekaram, presiding, and Mr Justice d'Cotta for unlawfully trafficking in 292.6 grams of diamorphine on 12 June under Section 3 (A) of the Misuse of Drugs Act.

The court was told during the 3-day trial that Tan was one of three passengers who arrived at the checkpoint from Johore in a Singapore-registered taxi.

Mr Lawrence Doray, then an acting assistant superintendent of customs, opened the door of the taxi and noticed that Tan's trouser pockets were bulging. He felt a pocket and asked him to take out the contents.

Tan took out a parcel wrapped in newspaper. In it were 20 plastic packets of white powder.

When asked, Tan said that it was "ubat" (medicine).

In the search room, he also surrendered two other parcels from his pockets. Twenty similar packets were found in a second big parcel and four packets of brown solids were contained in the smaller parcel.

In his defence, Tan said that a contractor friend, An Heng, had asked him to carry the parcels containing "powder for whitewashing" to Singapore.

He said that Ah Heng saw him at a coffeeshop in Penang the day before and asked him to follow him to Butterworth and Singapore.

At the railway station at Butterworth, Tan said that Ah Heng gave him \$50 and the parcels and told him to go first while he went back to collect his things.

Ah Heng also arranged to meet him outside the White House Hotel in Jalan Besar here to collect the parcels.

Cross-examined by DPP /Deputy Public Prosecutor/ Mr Sant Singh, Tan said that Ah Heng had promised him another \$100 upon delivery of the parcels.

Tan also said that he did not open the parcels to see the contents but merely accepted Ah Heng's word that they contained chemical powder for whitewash or paint.

Rejecting his evidence that the parcels contained chemicals, Mr Justice Kulasekaram said: "We do not accept your evidence on this point. We find that you are not speaking the truth here.

"You have in no way rebutted any of the presumptions that have been raised against you by the prosecution."

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

OFFICERS SEIZE HEROIN, ARREST MAN AFTER CAR CHASE

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 23 Feb 77 p 8 BK

/Text/ Singapore, Tuesday--Narcotics officers seized 500 gm (about a pound) of heroin and arrested a suspected drug trafficker today after a chase through a busy alley.

However, another suspect escaped. Both men were thought to be members of a new local drug syndicate.

The chase took place at Middle Road at 1530 hours, before an audience of hundreds of people--most of whom had not the slightest notion of what was going on.

Four antinarcotics officers on two motorcycles came upon a blue Cortina they were waiting for at Middle Road.

There were two men inside.

The officers shouted at the driver to stop, and at the same time tried to manoeuvre their motorcycles to force him to do so.

But the car started to accelerate away from them.

One officer took out his revolver and fired two shots, bursting the rear nearside tire.

The car went out of control, and careened into another car before coming to a halt.

The driver jumped out and fled before they could reach it, but the passenger in the front seat was stopped.

He threw a plastic bag away, which the officers recovered.

It was later found to contain the heroin.

The Central Narcotics Bureau is now hot on the trail of the car driver.

SINGAPORE

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE--Central Narcotics Bureau officers this afternoon detained a man and recovered 500 grams of heroin after halting a car by shooting at its tires. The incident took place at a junction of (Middle) and (Seringgi) Roads. According to the bureau spokesman, the heroin is estimated to be worth some \$17,000. The driver of the car escaped but the passenger was detained. /Text/ /Singapore Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT
22 Feb 77 BK/

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

THAI OFFICIAL ON OPIUM PRICE, DRUG SUPPRESSION COOPERATION

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 16 Feb 77 p 4 BK

/Text/ The price of raw opium in the northern parts of Thailand which formerly was high has dropped sharply.

This can be analysed in two ways: More opium poppy has been produced than the demand, or because more drug traffickers have been arrested so opium traders cannot sell their opium at a high price, Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, Secretary-General of the Committee of the Antinarcotic Suppression Centre said yesterday. He said narcotic authorities are now suppressing drug traffickers with cooperation from authorities in various countries who give information leading to arrests.

But drugs are still plentiful in Thailand and are available to traffickers, he said.

General Phao, who is also deputy commander of the Central Investigation Bureau, said that several organizations are now helping Thailand in suppressing the drug problems.

They include the United Nations which already has representatives here; the Colombo Plan, which has its agents who travel between Thailand and the Philippines to help suppression of drug traffickers; Interpol, and members of the ASEAN countries have met several times seeking a solution of the drug problems in Thailand, he said.

In addition, several police from Hong Kong, Malaysia, Canada and Australia are also now helping Thailand in this matter, said General Phao.

Holland will send police to work with Thai police this coming March while France also proposes to send police to work in Thailand, but it has not yet set a definite date, he said.

Drug traffickers are now using several methods to smuggle drugs from Thailand abroad and their methods include putting it in handicrafts, furniture, suitcases, canned food and plywood.

As there will always be new methods to smuggle drugs from here, it is difficult to suppress it, he said.

THAILAND

COLUMNIST URGES FAIR REWARDS FOR NARCOTICS POLICEMEN

Bangkok THAI RAT in Thai 14 Feb 77 p 16 BK

/Column by Wai Tathip/

/Excerpt/ Today I would like to talk about drug suppression operations and rewards shared among policemen who raid heroin producing factories and seize narcotics.

It is generally known that large heroin producing factories are located in jungles in border provinces in the north and narcotics officials who launch the suppression operations are mainly members of the Border Patrol Police, whose actual duty is to eliminate terrorists.

What I want to note here is how rewards are shared among those who deserve them. I was informed by reliable sources that whenever members of the Border Police successfully seize narcotics following raids on producing factories, junior police officials obtain small portions of the rewards--only 200-300 baht each--while much larger portions go to high ranking officials.

Furthermore, I learned that some high ranking police officers, who did not participate in the operations but merely flew in later by helicopter to observe the scene, obtain very large portions of the rewards.

As a matter of fact, the U.S. Government allocates a large sum as a reward for authorities who seize illegal narcotics, that is, \$300 (6,000 baht) for 1 kilogram of 80 percent pure heroin, \$30 for 1 kilogram of refined opium, \$10 for 1 kilogram of raw opium, and other larger amounts in case of a raid on a narcotics producing factory.

It can be seen that in every police heroin raid, a large number of rewards are given to the authorities involved, but it is to be much regretted that junior police officials receive a much smaller dividend unworthy of the risks they take.

It is also strange that some police officers who sit in headquarters are listed for the reward.

Since the suppression of illegal narcotics is a complicated task, I believe that it will achieve success if rewards are shared fairly among officials who participate in the operations.

Those who are responsible for this matter should think about it and should not allow anyone to get rich by exploiting others' toil.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

PAPER URGES MORE ACTION PREVENTING LOCAL DRUG TRAFFICKING

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 12 Feb 77 p 2 BK

/Editorial: "Commendable Bid To Plug Drug Pipelines"

/Text/ Both police and customs officials have been showing extraordinary vigilance and efficiency in interrupting narcotics which many have attempted to smuggle abroad. During the past month case after case has come to the attention of the media and the officials responsible deserve special congratulations.

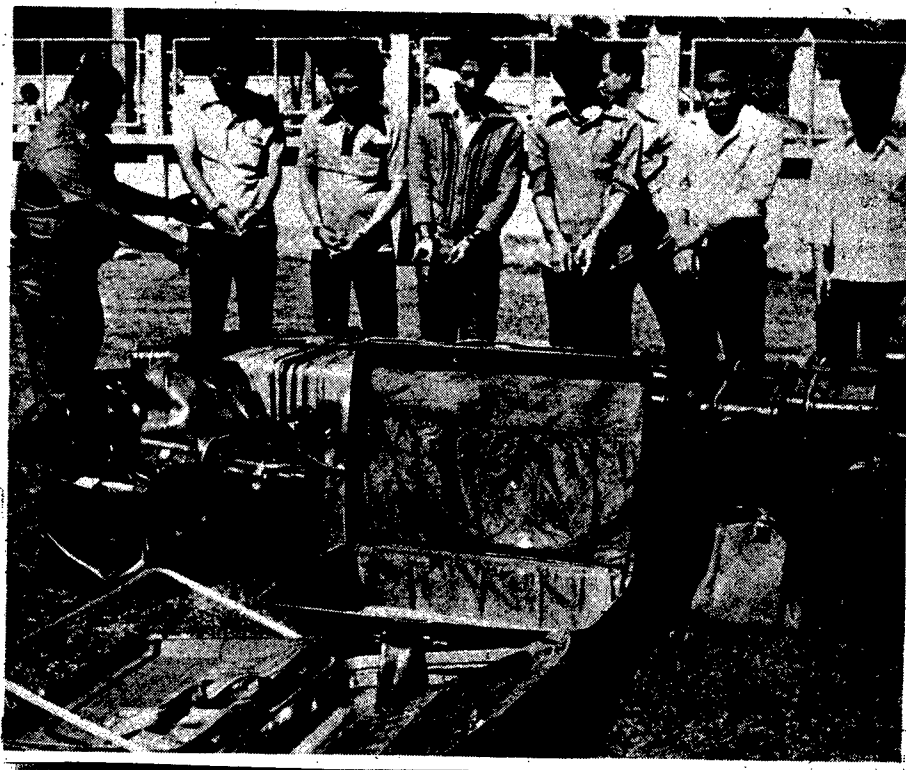
Everyone knows that the Western countries are deeply concerned about plugging the pipelines from the Golden Triangle to various destinations. They have been so worried about it that they are prepared to give both incentives and necessary aid to prevent the drugs from leaving Thailand to points abroad.

There are two ways of looking at it. The first is, of course, that the source--the opium production in the Golden Triangle--should be eliminated so that there will be no narcotics to transport. This is a difficult problem since almost everybody is agreed that the major opium producers are in Burma and that the Burmese Government is not strong enough to prevent opium production conducted under the supervision of rebels. But recently, the government in Rangoon has been waging serious war against this infamous traffic.

The second way of looking at it is that if the trafficking of narcotics to international markets is dried up by efficient police and customs officials, then production of opium in any large quantity will become unprofitable. Actually, it would be ideal if both could be tackled at the same time. But at present it seems that sealing up of the source is more difficult than preventing "export" to the lucrative markets in the West.

Following the present trend, we feel quite confident that the pipeline from the Golden Triangle could be plugged but that would pose a new problem, because drug traffickers used to big money are not going to quit that easily. While they will find newer ways of smuggling drugs to international markets, what we are primarily worried about is that they may try to expand the local market and our younger generation will become the target.

Already we have a problem with our youth as regards drug abuse and so while the police and customs officials are plugging the smuggling out of drugs, they must also be wary of local traffickers. We know the problem of production in the Golden Triangle is being tackled as speedily as possible, but we would like to see more action in preventing local trafficking.





THAILAND

SIX DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED FOR POSSESSION OF HEROIN

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 12 Feb 77 p 1 BK

/Text/ Six persons were arrested yesterday with 1.4 kilogrammes of high-grade No 4 heroin after falling prey to undercover policemen.

Agents from the Anti-narcotics Centre, following a tip-off, had approached the trafficker to buy four packs of No 4 heroin--with an appointment that the drugs would be handled over yesterday morning in the parking compound of Asia Hotel.

The police undercover agents were there in the morning, but the traffickers sent around their own agent to make sure they were not being trapped like earlier cases. They didn't carry any heroin with them during the first scouting mission.

The two sides met and agreed to meet again at 1530 hours.

At the appointed time, the six came in a yellow Toyota Crown--only to be swooped upon by the waiting anti-narcotics agents.

The six were identified as Suchat Mahamat, 26, from Bang Su; Man Tulakan, 31, from Chonburi; Samli Dulayakong, 40, from Chonburi; Nut Amatpatan, 38, from Samut Prakan; Worawong Saman, 34, from Nakhon Nayok and Sura Sawatdi, 33, from Phaya Thai.



CSO: 5300

THAILAND

TWO SRI LANKANS ACQUITTED ON DRUG SMUGGLING CHARGES

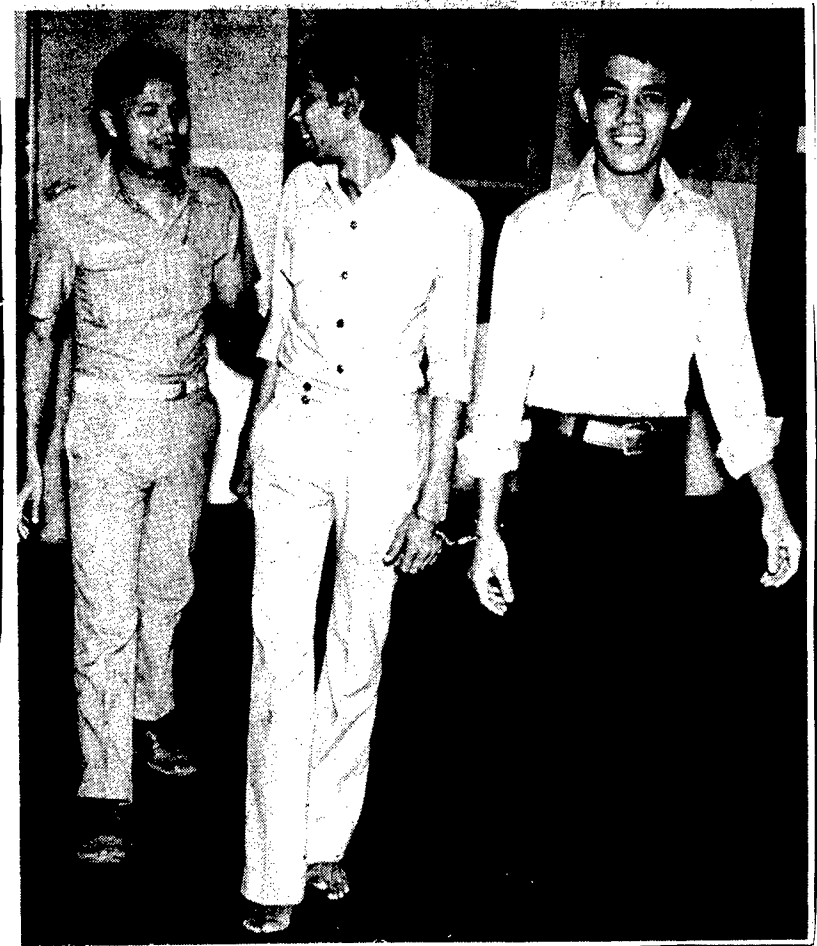
Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Feb 77 p 5 BK

/Text/ The Criminal Court yesterday acquitted two Ceylonese charged with attempting to smuggle 9 kilogrammes of morphine and 2 kilogrammes of No 3 heroin because of lack of evidence.

The two Ceylonese, Leonard Eustace de Silva and Mohamed B. Hasheem were arrested aboard a Singaporean freighter 'Eastern Progress' when customs officials allegedly found the drugs in their possession on 12 April last year.

They denied the charges and claimed the heroin belonged to somebody else.

However, the criminal court ordered them detained until the period for a prosecution appeal lapses.



CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE FIND HEROIN IN BANG SU

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Feb 77 p 3 BK

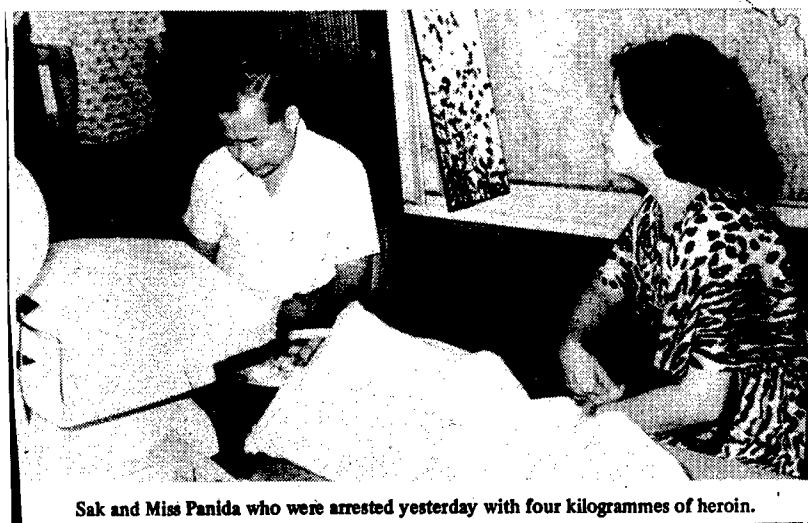
/Text/ A man and a woman were arrested in a rented house in Bang Su yesterday afternoon after Narcotics Suppression Police found 4 kilogrammes of No 4 first-grade heroin hidden in the house.

They were identified as Sak Chaikhammao (52) and Miss Phanida Chaimongkhon.

Acting on a tipoff, police arrived at the house in Soi Saphan Yao in Bang Su area and found the heroin, neatly packed in eight plastic bags inside a big paper bag and placed on a cupboard in a room.

Miss Phanida told police after being arrested that she was given the heroin by a man (name withheld by police) at Siam Square to be kept in the house till buyers called over.

Both Sak and Miss Phanida were detained for further interrogation by the Crime Suppression Division.



Sak and Miss Panida who were arrested yesterday with four kilogrammes of heroin.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BRIEFS

DRASTIC ACTION FOR OFFENSES--/16 February announcement of the Office of the Prime Minister/ In view of the necessity to prevent, stop and suppress certain crimes constituting a disturbance and threat to public peace and order and good moral and a destruction of national resources and public health, the prime minister, with the approval of the Cabinet and the Prime Minister's Advisory Council, will from now on take drastic action using the power granted him under Article 21 of the Constitution of the Kingdom to cope with the following crimes: 1. Rape and murder; 2. Major cases of production and/or trafficking of heroin; and 3. Arson cases involving heavy losses. /Text/
/Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1000 GMT 16 Feb 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

POLICE BRUTALITY WITNESS FOUND GUILTY OF DRUG POSSESSION

Possession of Hashish, LSD

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 24 Feb 77 p 4

[Text] Thomas Henderson was found guilty yesterday of possessing an ounce of hashish and 500 tablets of LSD, but the question of whether the 21-year-old man had bought the LSD for the purpose of trafficking occupied the court during the trial's second day.

Mr. Henderson, a principal witness at the Morand royal commission into police brutality, testified that he had bought the LSD as a favor for a friend, who had helped after a fire destroyed his apartment in December, 1973.

To show his gratitude, Mr. Henderson said he had bought \$200 worth of LSD from a Rochdale College drug dealer when he bought an ounce of hashish (worth \$80 to \$85) for his own use.

Sergeant Michael Burke, a nine-year veteran of the Metro Toronto police drug squad, testified that 500 tablets of LSD was "quite a large quantity, by no means street level. It's higher than that." He said a street-level transaction was one to 10 tablets at a time.

The drug expert also said that the value of 500 LSD tablets at the time Mr. Henderson bought them was \$500. If Mr. Henderson had paid only \$200, equivalent to 40 cents a tablet, it was likely that he was getting a price normally charged only for a larger quantity, say 2,000 or 3,000 at a time.

Questioning Sgt. Burke, Mr. Henderson's lawyer, John Hoolihan, tried to suggest that the price may have been lowered because he was buying an ounce of hashish at the same time and because he had bought hashish from the same dealer before.

Sgt. Burke replied that even if the dealer had trusted him, it was unlikely that the price would have been dropped more than \$25 to \$50 at the most.

Mr. Henderson's lawyer tried repeatedly yesterday to introduce evidence of police brutality during the drug raid and subsequent arrest. When the Crown objected that it wasn't relevant to the charge, Mr. Hoolihan said that when police "act much like the Gestapo," it diminishes the weight of their evidence.

In particular, Mr. Hoolihan questioned testimony given by an arresting officer on Monday that the first time he had heard Mr. Henderson's explanation about buying LSD for a friend was at his trial.

Mr. Henderson testified yesterday that, on the contrary, he had given police the name and address of his friend at the police station as soon as a mechanic's claw and vise-grip had been applied to his genitals.

The trial before Judge Edward Wren continues today.

Light Sentence Imposed

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 25 Feb 77 pp 1, 2

[Article by Ellen Roseman]

[Text] Thomas Henderson, 21, was found guilty yesterday of possession of LSD for the purpose of trafficking but the judge gave him a short sentence because of police brutality during his arrest.

Mr. Henderson was given 60 days in jail, to be served on weekends. The maximum is 10 years.

Judge Edward Wren strongly condemned police actions during the search in Mr. Henderson's apartment and at the police station. "The police conduct on evidence before me can be characterized only as reprehensible and inexcusable and, as it turns out in the circumstances of the trial, totally unnecessary even to misguided zeal in the execution of duty.

"I therefore conclude that I may use this misconduct in the mitigation of the sentence."

Mr. Henderson, a letter carrier with the Post Office, was arrested February 9, 1974, after five policemen with a narcotics search warrant raided his Steeles Avenue apartment. They found an ounce of hashish and about 500 tablets of LSD.

Several months after the arrest, Mr. Henderson complained to THE GLOBE AND MAIL that police had kicked, choked and threatened to kill him during the search in his apartment, then had applied a mechanic's claw and vise-grip to his genitals to get him to talk at the station.

An article on Mr. Henderson was published in a GLOBE AND MAIL series on police brutality. The series led to a royal commission inquiry under

Mr. Justice Donald Morand of the Ontario Supreme Court, who upheld Mr. Henderson's allegations.

Last September, a policeman and a former policeman were charged with extorting information and with assault causing bodily harm to Mr. Henderson.

Mr. Henderson's current trial follows two mistrials on the same charges and the reversal of an earlier guilty plea.

During this three-day trial, Mr. Henderson admitted that he'd bought the hashish for his own use but insisted that he'd purchased the LSD as a favor for a friend. Although the friend had disappeared after paying \$20 for about 60 tablets, Mr. Henderson maintained he had planned to throw away the rest--even though it meant a personal loss of \$180.

Judge Wren found him guilty of possessing hashish but not guilty of possession for the purpose of trafficking. He suspended sentence. On the charge of possession of LSD for trafficking, Judge Wren entered a guilty verdict after saying he found Mr. Henderson's story "unacceptable, highly improbable and specious."

The large quantity of LSD (two year's supply for a heavy user), the fact that the tablets were packed in bundles of 100 and that \$617 in cash was found in the apartment was more consistent with trafficking than with street-level dealings, the judge said.

Judge Wren said he was handing out a light sentence because Mr. Henderson has no criminal record and, in the three years since the arrest, had been law-abiding and steadily employed. Also, his wife Saada, 21, is seven months pregnant.

But the biggest factor in his decision to mitigate sentence was "the inexcusable and reprehensible indignities visited upon the accused" by the police.

"Although they did not result in serious physical damage to the offender, nevertheless in view of his age (18 at the time) and the surrounding circumstances, they must surely have terrorized him."

He put Mr. Henderson on probation for three years and ordered him to abstain from all non-prescription drugs.

CSO: 5320

CLAIMS MADE THAT INMATES BECOME ADDICTED IN PRISON

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 25 Feb 77 p 33

[Excerpt] Ottawa (CP)--A woman whose son spent six months in Millhaven penitentiary said yesterday he had to be treated for drug addiction after his release.

She appeared before a special Commons subcommittee into prison violence as a member of a group of women whose husbands, sons or lovers are in federal prisons.

They raised the following issues in a brief:

--Some prisoners develop drug habits in penitentiary because of the free flow of both prescribed and illegal drugs.

--Prisoners are rarely prepared for the shock of release. Gradual release programs, halfway houses and firmer training and development within the prisons were among their suggestions.

--Commissioner's directives, the laws of the prison system, sometimes arrived late and often were misinterpreted, or interpreted in different ways in various prisons. Staff should be trained to interpret the directives uniformly and correctly.

The women said they would be willing to undergo more thorough searches during visits if guards also were searched by someone from outside the institution. Police were proposed.

"Guards do bring in drugs," a woman whose son is in Millhaven told Kenneth Robinson (L, Lakeshore) and Bruce Halliday (PC, Oxford).

Another woman said that her son hadn't had an apparent drug problem before he went to Millhaven, a maximum-security prison 15 miles west of Kingston. But after six months there, he arrived home an addict. She said she stumbled into the John Howard Society women's group in her efforts to help him get treatment. He finally had given himself up to the RCMP in hope of getting help, she said.

Trafficking of prescribed drugs within the prisons also caused problems that could easily be avoided by dispensing pills in powdered form, the women said.

JUDGE SAYS THOUSANDS OF LAWS NOT REALISTIC

Toronto THE SATURDAY GLOBE MAIL in English 19 Feb 77 p 1

[Article by Arthur Johnson]

[Excerpts] Thousands of laws in Canada "are being systematically ignored" because to prosecute offenders would be "counterproductive to what the criminal law ought to be doing," according to Mr. Justice Antonio Lamer, chairman of the Law Reform Commission of Canada.

Judge Lamer described the thousands of annual prosecutions for possessing soft drugs--chiefly marijuana--as charades, saying it is hard to find anyone involved in the cases, including, often, the police and the judge, "who feel that they are dealing with 'criminals' in any rational sense of that very significant word."

Addressing an audience of judges, lawyers and law students at Osgoode Hall Law School yesterday, Judge Lamer said that having tough laws that aren't obeyed inhibits the search for more realistic controls.

The jurist was speaking at a conference on the Canadian court system sponsored by the law school and the Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice.

"A 'hang-litterbugs' philosophy of criminal law," he said, "does little more than ensure that our statute books as well as our roadways are filled with trash."

After citing examples where Canadians are "over-judicialized," Judge Lamer said there has not been enough effort to seek judicial solutions in the area where the administration of the state "begins to lap over into the essential core of civil liberties and areas for individual self-assertion."

CSO: 5320

HASHISH DEALERS JAILED FOR CONSPIRACY TO IMPORT

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 22 Feb 77 p 3

[Text] Three Swiss convicted of importing liquid hashish resin received jail sentences of up to 10 years yesterday and a bench warrant was issued for a fourth man who skipped bail.

Court was told the 60 pounds of liquid resin was worth more than \$1,000,000 at retail. RCMP seized the liquid in May, 1976, after keeping an around-the-clock watch on the men for two weeks. Police said it was the second largest liquid hashish seizure in recent years.

Yesterday, Supreme Court Judge John Cromarty sentenced Peter Dvorak of Zurich, Switzerland, to 10 years in prison for conspiracy to import a narcotic, with an additional five years to be served concurrently for possession for the purpose of trafficking.

Vladimir Vransky, also of Zurich, was sentenced to 8 1/2 years for conspiracy to import and an additional five years concurrent for possession for the purpose of trafficking.

Josef Zikan of Zurich was sentenced to seven years for importing and three years concurrent for simple possession.

A bench warrant was issued for Branislav Fencel of Toronto, who was arrested on the same charges but did not appear for trial.

Crown attorney Michael Dambrot has moved to estreat \$80,000 bail--in the form of a condominium apartment in the Harbour Castle L'Appartiel--which Fencel put up as security.

At a bail hearing last summer, Mr. Dambrot stated that Mr. Fencel, 26, a former Czech national, had connections overseas, particularly in South America.

About the same time as the four men were arrested in Toronto last spring, Zurich police picked up Milos Zatloukal in connection with the distribution

throughout Europe of liquid hash concealed in cars. Mr. Zatloukal confessed to Swiss police that he was a middleman in a large operation and tape recordings made in the Canadian case associated him with Mr. Dvorak. Since then, Mr. Zatloukal has committed suicide.

As he sentenced the men in Toronto yesterday, Judge Cromarty noted that following their release they may be deported to Switzerland where they could face criminal charges and from there could be deported to their original homeland, Czechoslovakia.

The judge complimented the RCMP for an investigation which in fact produced the conspiracy to import charge after the initial arrests.

The three men had concocted an elaborate plan to smuggle the material past Canadian Customs.

Mr. Zikan, 36, a builder with a university degree, constructed small sample cross-sections of house walls and concealed the plastic drug containers. The shipment was sent by air from Zurich to a Montreal businessman and the drugs carefully removed from the building material.

However, the men discussed the drug deal on phones and in rooms which were bugged. When the police moved in they caught Mr. Dvorak, 33, standing on Davisville Avenue holding a 15-pound container of the thick, dark-brown oil.

At the jury trial, Mr. Zikan was referred to as the courier, Mr. Vransky as the man who distributed the drug to Mr. Fencel, Mr. Fencel as the Canadian distributor, and Mr. Dvorak as an associate of Mr. Zatloukal.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

ARRESTS MADE IN CONNECTION WITH DRUG-IMPORTING RING

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 23 Feb 77 p 23

[Text] Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. (CP)--A combined Canadian and United States police team has charged at least three men in connection with a drug-importing ring operating in the Sault Ste. Marie area.

Police said Tuesday that about 100 pounds of marijuana and \$11,000 cash were seized in the arrests, made in the region of St. Joseph and Drummond Islands which straddle the Canadian-U.S. border just east of Sault Ste. Marie.

Richard William Harrison, 28, of Fargo, N.D., was remanded in custody on charges of conspiracy to import and conspiracy to traffic in marijuana when he appeared Tuesday before a justice of the peace.

Police said other persons will appear today before a justice of the peace. Names of the others were not released.

In Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., Paul Vincent Henderson, 23, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., and Ralph Christopher Neal, 24, of San Clemente, Calif., were remanded in custody to an unspecified date.

Henderson is charged with intent to deliver marijuana and Neal with the sale of the drug.

The investigation was conducted by the Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., police, the U.S. Chippewa County sheriff's office, the RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police and city police.

Police said further details will be released when the investigation is completed.

CSO: 5320

CRIMINAL PROFITEERS IN MARIHUANA

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 23 Feb 77 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text] Welcome to Kitchener-Waterloo, where regional police estimate that in each and every high school about six drug traffickers are hard at work, selling mainly marijuana. Police say that more than a ton of marijuana--with a street value of about \$600,000--is dumped into the region every two weeks, while the largest seizure they've made in the past two years was about 70 pounds.

Choose any other school district in Canada you like--and the problem will be much the same. A network of illicit drug trafficking that writhes its way from coast to coast, with which police are helpless to cope, and engaged in to a frightening extent by high school students. Kids. That's what we've got. And we have our marijuana law to thank.

Ottawa, for its very minor part in the drama, nods now and then in the direction of its ancient promise to reduce penalties for cannabis offences by transferring the drug from the jurisdiction of the Narcotic Control Act to that of the Food and Drug Act.

That promise has become something of a dirty joke. But even if Ottawa were to surprise everyone by picking its promise up, blowing the dust away and putting it into action--in fact, even if Ottawa were to go hog-wild and legalize possession of marijuana--there would still be that other, even bigger problem. We'd still have thousand upon thousand of marijuana profiteers not yet out of their teens. And they'd still be criminals.

What do we do about them? If Ottawa has given any thought to the matter, no hint of it has managed to penetrate the mist.

Should we devote vast police resources to rounding up the ragamuffins and tossing them into jail? Not something we'd recommend. But, apart from that essentially futile endeavor, what are the options?

Should Ottawa take the breath out of the black market by legalizing the whole business and then imposing its own administrative controls? A heady prospect, and an intimidating one.

But these are the sort of things Ottawa should be contemplating--and commenting upon from time to time. They are certainly the sort of things that the public would appreciate being informed about.

CSO: 5320

MARIHUANA MYTHS GONE, BUT PENALTIES STAY

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 14 Feb 77 p 24

[Article by Marlene Simmons]

[Text] Ottawa (CP)--Since the federal government promised to lighten penalties for possession of marijuana and hashish (cannabis) five years ago, close to 100,000 Canadians have been convicted of the offence under the tough Narcotics Control Act.

Between 1973 and 1975 nearly 3,000 people, most between the ages of 18 and 29, were imprisoned for simple possession of the drug.

A bill which would have abolished such sentences by moving jurisdiction over cannabis to the less harsh Food and Drug Act died on the Commons order paper nearly two years ago.

Last week Justice Minister Ron Basford promised the cabinet would consider the cannabis situation again but a spokesman in his office says no decision has been made by cabinet.

He said legislation would be introduced "soon" but the exact date is "up in the air." The government would draw upon the previous cannabis bill when drafting the new legislation.

Under the original bill, penalties for simple possession of marijuana and hashish and for small-fry traffickers would have been softened, while giving courts more leeway to deal severely with organized dealers.

The maximum fine for first conviction for possession would have been \$500, with a fine of up to \$1,000 for subsequent offences.

Offenders not paying the fine could go to jail for up to six months.

Under the Narcotics Control Act, fines of up to \$2,000 and imprisonment for up to seven years can be imposed for possession. At present, most first-time offenders get a fine between \$200 and \$300.

The federal government has admitted that lumping marijuana and hashish with drugs such as heroin under the Narcotics Control Act is inconsistent.

It has expressed reservations over the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, which puts cannabis in the same category as heroin and other narcotic drugs. Under the convention a cannabis offence would be sufficient grounds for extradition from Canada to another country which has signed the agreement.

In 1974, when the legislation was first introduced to move marijuana and hashish under the Food and Drug Act, federal Health Minister Marc Lalonde said the present law is "an ass and full of inconsistencies."

The stiff penalties date from the 1950s, when the Narcotics Control Act was drawn up as a deterrent to the opium and heroin trade. Marijuana, which wasn't a problem then, was thrown in almost as an afterthought.

In 1961 there were only 15 cannabis convictions in the country, most of them involving visitors. Since then the conviction rate has exploded, topping 25,000 in 1975.

Seven years ago then health minister John Munro said that "if we find a significant minority of the Canadian people smoke marijuana we would be totally irresponsible if we didn't legalize it."

More than 1.5 million Canadians had smoked marijuana by 1972, according to the Royal Commission on the Non-Medical Use of Drugs, better known as the LeDain inquiry. Current estimates place the number as high as three million.

The \$4 million LeDain inquiry, begun in 1969, recommended in its report on cannabis in 1972 that penalties for cannabis possession be dropped.

The commission's majority report recommended, however, that selling and distribution of the drug should remain illegal.

In the last century, numerous government commissions in several countries have come to virtually the same conclusions.

Among them are: the British Indian Hemp Drugs Commission Report, 1893-4; the New York LaGuardia Report, 1944; the U.S. Presidential Task Force on Narcotics and Drug Abuse, 1967; the British Parliamentary Advisory Committee on Cannabis, 1968, and the U.S. Commission on Marijuana and Drug Abuse, 1972.

All the governments involved have failed to implement any of the significant recommendations of these studies.

Opponents of decriminalization of cannabis argue that once penalties against the drug's use are lightened, there will be a marked increase in cannabis use, and resulting problems.

In 1975, the U.S. Drug Abuse Council reported that one year after Oregon decriminalized cannabis, no such increase occurred.

Since then six states have decriminalized possession of cannabis and a seventh will do so April 1. Possession in Alaska, California, Minnesota, South Dakota, Ohio, Colorado and Maine, still illegal, is a misdemeanor and not a felony.

The debate over possible physical harm from cannabis use has been raging for more than a decade.

"Not one of the findings that demonstrates marijuana's potential for harm has been consistently replicated by other research or could be regarded as proved," says Dr. Norman Zinberg of Harvard Medical School in the December issue of PSYCHOLOGY TODAY.

"Few of the oldest most publicized findings--those concerned with the areas of brain damage, lack of motivation, psychosis, and the stepping stone to heroin theory--are now supported by any member of the scientific community, regardless of where he stands on marijuana."

Cannabis has definite benefits, U.S. medical researchers have found, and can be used to relieve the symptoms of glaucoma and asthma and as a tonic for terminal cancer patients.

The federal agriculture department says the hemp plant, from which cannabis is derived, was brought into North America by Louis Hebert who grew it at Port Royal in 1606 as a source of fiber for rope.

CSO: 5320

HEROIN, MARIHUANA SEIZED IN RAIDS

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 14 Feb 77 p 1

[Text] Two persons are in custody following raids Sunday on the North Shore that netted a half-pound of heroin, most of it hidden in a British Properties house.

A West Vancouver police spokesman said today the men, whose names were not released, will face charges of possessing heroin, trafficking and possession for the purpose of trafficking.

The heroin is worth about \$500,000 on the street, police said.

Police said the seizure was the culmination of a lengthy investigation by West Vancouver police and members of the North Vancouver RCMP drug squad.

In another incident, three persons were charged Sunday with possession of 37 pounds of marijuana and large quantities of hashish and MDA for the purpose of trafficking.

The seizure of the drugs, worth an estimated \$14,000 on the street, came as a result of a long investigation by the North Vancouver drug squad.

CSO: 5320

'NO SYMPATHY' FOR DRUG DEALERS IN MEXICO

Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 17 Feb 77 p F5

[Article by W. Gifford Jones, MD: "Sympathy for Drug Dealers in Mexico Is Misplaced"; for referent article see JPRS 68679, 24 February 1977, TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS, No 286, pages 118-123]

[Text] I recently read an article where some Canadians had been held for long periods in Mexican jails. They had been caught by the Mexican police trying to smuggle hard drugs into Canada. Now they were bemoaning the fact that the Mexican judicial system was slow; that the government steadfastly refused to grant pardons to drug offenders, and that their jails are not as plush as the ones in Canada.

In recent weeks I haven't had much time to forget about drug addiction. I had invited readers to send a copy of a recent article on drug addiction to Marc Lalonde in Ottawa if they agreed with it. I also asked readers to send me a copy of their letter, if they had an extra stamp. It appears that there were a considerable number of extra stamps in Canada.

Some readers reminded me that one can forward a letter, postage-free, to the Minister of Health.

Since this article triggered such a response I thought you would be interested in knowing what other Canadians had to say to Marc Lalonde, and at the same time, to reassure the Mexican Government about one point.

Mrs. C. M. wrote: "A thousand blessings on your head for your excellent article on drug addiction. I have four teen-aged sons with whom we discuss drugs. Your article will reinforce our position on them." Another letter from Mrs. M. B. of Winnipeg says: "Thank you for your timely and powerful article. I trust that it proves to be effective in Ottawa. We wholeheartedly agree with all that you set forth so poignantly."

Many letters urged me to keep writing about controversial health matters. Mr. H. T. stressed: "Keep crusading for causes of this kind. We pray that God will give you guidance and courage and bless you for it."

Other readers were happy that they finally had a concrete way to voice their displeasure about how the politicians were handling drug addiction. Mr. J. P. of Calgary wrote: "The drug problem is more acute than is recognized by our members of Parliament. I've sent the elephant column to them. Let's hope that they act before it's too late."

It was also good to receive letters from doctors and paramedical people. Dr. E. K. from Kitchener stated: "You said it so well. Try it again and again." A pharmacist from Vancouver told me how drugs have insidiously become a way of life for so many teen-agers in that city. He also urged me not to lay the subject aside.

Some people wrote long letters telling me how they had experienced the horror of drugs in their own families and their fruitless search for help. Yet the primary recurring message was the hope that our politicians would begin to take a sensible approach to this pressing problem. The letters are still coming in, so my thanks to everyone who had that extra stamp.

I'm sure that those who contacted Marc Lalonde would have smiled if they had read the Mexican article. The story mentioned that the people in the Mexican jails are an embarrassment to Canadian officials. Why? Because although our embassy staff had little sympathy for hard-drug pushers, they are nevertheless Canadian citizens and entitled to protection for human rights violations. Why is it that we repeatedly see democratic governments dotting the legalistic i's for criminals then looking the other way--rather than actively protecting the youth of the nation?

Suppose these offenders had slipped through Mexico's fingers but had been caught by the RCMP? It takes little imagination to speculate what would happen. They would have been sent to one of our increasingly fancy jails. They would have the funds to employ the best lawyers, and would soon be paroled and planning new ways to inject our youth with lethal drugs.

Maybe it's about time we congratulated the Mexicans and other governments for refusing to budge on hard drugs. Surely we're not so perfect that we can't learn from other nations.

Now that my book "On Being a Woman" has been translated into Spanish, I've received a kind invitation to visit Mexico, but I don't intend to carry any care packages to drug-peddling Canadians. Rather, I'll tell the Mexicans that sensible Canadians don't want them to slacken their laws for hucksters of lethal drugs; that Canadians have no sympathy for those who smear and defame their citizenship; that we will continue to visit their country, and that, let us hope, Canada will one day follow their example.

For the moment, that closes the chapter on drug addiction. I trust that some Ottawa politicians have read these articles. Is it really asking too much for one of them to stand up and talk about this national problem?

If you put off sending the last article to the Minister of Health maybe you should consider mailing this one.

W. Gifford-Jones is the pseudonym for a practicing physician. He expresses opinions only and in general terms not to be considered advice to anyone who may have a medical problem.

CSO: 5320

CANADA

HEROIN WORTH \$10.5 MILLION CONCEALED IN BATTERIES

Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 11 Feb 77 p 19

[Text] Batteries that failed to yield a spark alerted customs men and resulted in the discovery of 8 1/2 pounds of heroin, Judge W. A. McClellan was told at the trial of two men in county court.

William Louis Reisig, 35, and Clifford Fook Hing Jung, 44, are charged with conspiring between July 1, 1974, and March 28, 1975, to import heroin into Canada and to traffic in heroin.

Reisig is also charged with possession of the drug for the purpose of trafficking.

The narcotics, which could have a value of \$10.5 million on the illicit market, were discovered when it was noted that the batteries were contained in two plastic bags instead of the usual one and, when opened, it was discovered that each battery contained two vials of white powder.

Investigators left one battery intact, filled the others with flour and kept the shipment under surveillance until it was claimed by a cartage company driver.

The truck was followed by means of an electronic "bug" placed in one of the crates and the shipment was followed to a Vancouver dwelling where Reisig was arrested.

CSO: 5320

ARRAIGNMENT OF 28 ARRESTED ON DRUG CHARGES

Windsor THE WINDSOR STAR in English 15 Feb 77 p 22

[Text] Twenty-eight persons arrested on drug charges during the weekend after a four-month police investigation, appeared in provincial court Monday.

Eight were charged with trafficking in marijuana and 15 with trafficking in phencyclidine (PCP), a horse tranquilizer often sold as mescaline.

One man was charged with trafficking in LSD and another with trafficking in cannabis resin.

They were arrested on Saturday and Sunday by Windsor police, the Essex OPP and RCMP officers. All the cases were remanded to February 21.

Those charged with trafficking in marijuana are: Timothy Armstrong, 20, of Windermere Road; Michael Byrd, 20, of Essex, two counts; Douglas Desjardins, 18, of Ellrose Avenue; Anthony Deslippe, 19, of Grand Marais, with two counts; Wayne Paul Lefaive, 23, of Curry Avenue; Andrew Pillon, 18, of South Pacific Avenue, two counts; Dale Stemmler, 20, of Capitol Street; and Donald Willson, of Columbia Court, two counts.

Those charged with trafficking in PCP were: Anna Arbolleya, 19, of Curry Avenue; Colleen Atcheson, 17, of Wyandotte Street East; John Lisinski, 17, of Westminster Avenue; Dennis Cushing, of St. Luke Road; Victoria Zuliani, 16, of Victoria Avenue two counts; Larry Martinello, 18, of Atwater Crescent; Gerald Milito, 17, of Balfour Boulevard; Frank Nagy, 17, of Woodland Avenue; Richard Payton, 25, of Tecumseh Road East, two counts; Desi Scullion, 22, of Larkin Road; William Sexton, 20, of Peter Street; Robert Starkiss, 17, of Buckingham Drive; Gregory Tremblay, 17, of Chandler Road; and Floyd Ellwood, 17, of Chandler Road.

Gary Ringer, 21, of Gladstone Avenue, was charged with trafficking in PCP and cannabis resin and Keith Worby, 22, of Byng Road, is charged with trafficking in PCP and marijuana.

Charged with trafficking in LSD is Samuel Cooper, 22, of Janette Avenue.

An RCMP spokesman said today that Joseph Molnar, 20, of Lincoln Road, Pat Collins, 20, of Windermere Road and Bob Mirkovic, 22, of Sandwich Street were also arrested during the raids on various trafficking charges.

CSO: 5320

DRUG VENDETTAS ROCK PRISONS

Ottawa THE CITIZEN in English 15 Feb 77 p 19

[Article by Gerard McNeil]

[Text] Vancouver--Perhaps half the 1,450 men in federal prisons in British Columbia are there for drug-related offences, Doug McGregor, B.C. regional director of the Canadian Penitentiary Service, says.

"The drug scene has become increasingly violent in the last 10 years," Mr. McGregor said in an interview. "The violence is at the street level. But they carry their vendettas into the institutions."

The vendettas began in the 1960s as the market for marijuana, hashish and heroin began surging. Drug-related offences include not only the use, sale or importing of illegal drugs but crimes--burglary, theft--committed by users trying to raise the money to pay for them. In traffic wars for control of the market, murder is common.

Mr. McGregor told Ken Robinson (L--Toronto-Lakeshore) a number of prison hostage-takings here have been carried out by prisoners frightened of others because of drug deals that went wrong. The hostage-takers usually want transfers to other prisons or more protection.

Mr. Robinson is a member of a special Commons subcommittee touring several federal prisons in B.C. this week looking for the causes of prison violence.

During a visit to regional headquarters Monday, they were given background papers, including two on the physical and mental effects of opiates. Both papers were produced for the Pacific research unit of the Canadian Penitentiary Service by Louise Stratton and suggested that modification or repeal of Canada's severe drug laws might be the most logical and least harmful solution.

Regional research officer Brian C. Murphy notes, in an introduction to Mrs. Stratton's last paper, published in July, 1976, plans to outline programs "based upon hassle-free prescribed opiates" may have been scuttled by termination of the unit and its move to Ottawa.

"None of the research unit staff is prepared to go to Ottawa and most have already resigned."

The Stratton papers say there is no evidence chronic heroin use causes any significant psychological harm to the user or social harm to others. The harm came through the existence of an illegal market, which forced users to steal hundreds or thousands of dollars a month to maintain the habit.

Mrs. Stratton, 28, was a classification officer at the British Columbia penitentiary in June, 1975, when she was one of 15 prison staff held for 41 hours by Claire Wilson, Dwight Lucas and Andrew Bruce. She later quit her job with the Canadian Penitentiary Service.

CSO: 5320

BRIEFS

WARRANTS FOR ARREST OF 41--Prince George--Three months work by the Prince George RCMP drug squad and a lone undercover officer today produced warrants for the arrest of 41 persons in seven northern B.C. communities. Sgt. John Connally said the roundup began today in Prince George, Quesnel, Vanderhoof, Mackenzie, Chetwynd, Dawson Creek and Fort St. John. The warrants involve 44 counts under the Narcotics Control Act, the Food and Drug Act and charges of trafficking laid under the Criminal Code of Canada. Drugs involved are heroin, marijuana, hashish and MDA. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 23 Feb 77 p 18]

NOT GUILTY ON DRUG CHARGE--A Thornhill man was acquitted in York County Court yesterday of a charge of conspiring to manufacture the drug PCP. John Lund Gordon, 21, had been charged last March by York regional police drug squad with conspiracy to manufacture PCP and counselling an unidentified person to make \$400,000 worth of the drug. The drug was put under controls by the federal Government about four years ago after a Newmarket girl almost died after taking it. It is now controlled under federal narcotics and drug laws. Mr. Gordon was arrested with another man, who was also charged. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 1 Mar 77 p 2]

KEITH RICHARDS ARRESTED--Keith Richards, guitarist with the Rolling Stones, has been charged with possession of heroin for the purpose of trafficking. An ounce of heroin with an estimated street value of \$4,000 was seized in a downtown hotel room Sunday after a week-long investigation by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at Toronto International Airport and the Special Services division of the Ontario Provincial Police. Earlier, Richards' common-law wife, Anita Pallenberg, was arrested at the airport and charged with possession of heroin and hashish. An RCMP spokesman said 10 grams of hashish were found, together with a spoon on which chemical analysis found traces of heroin. Miss Pallenberg will appear at Provincial Court in Brampton, while Richards will be arraigned at Old City Hall in Toronto. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 1 Mar 77 p 15]

HEROIN CHARGE--A West Vancouver life insurance salesman was remanded in custody to Friday for time to obtain counsel when he appeared Tuesday before Judge Nancy Morrison in North Vancouver provincial court. Graham Ashley Grainger, 45, of 505 Ballantree, faces charges of possessing heroin for the purpose of trafficking and possessing heroin. Charges follow police seizure at the weekend of half a pound of heroin worth about \$500,000 on the illicit market. [Text] [Vancouver THE VANCOUVER SUN in English 17 Feb 77 p 14]

DRUG ROUNDUP NETS 74--Moncton (CP)--Seventy-four people were arrested yesterday under warrants obtained by the RCMP and municipal forces, marking the culmination of a year-long effort to stem illegal trafficking in drugs. Supt. Jack Rankin said that members of the RCMP's J Division and municipal police made raids and arrests in Moncton, Shediac, Dieppe, Chatham, Newcastle, Bathurst, Caraquet and Tracadie. Supt. Rankin said 82 people were named in the warrants and eight still were being sought. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 25 Feb 77 p 9]

CSO: 5320

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE LABORATORIES DISCOVERED--Cochabamba--Gen Ramon Azero S., commander of the 7th Army Division, has ordered the units stationed in that zone to carry out an open struggle to combat drug traffickers. General Azero mentioned that several laboratories have been discovered in the zone. He added that several persons have been arrested and that several trucks of cocaine have been seized. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 12 Feb 77 p 7 PY]

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

'GLORIA' COURT MARTIAL BEGINS

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 27 Jan 77 p 15-A

[Article by Hernan Unas]

[Text] The commander of the Atlantic naval force, Rear Admiral Hector Calderon Salazar, called a court martial to try the sailors who were allegedly involved in the drug traffic discovered on board the training ship "Gloria."

The court martial will begin immediately in Cartagena. As the trial progresses, various members of the crew of the navy flagship will be present either as defendants or as witnesses for the prosecution.

Rear Admiral Calderon Salazar, as judge of the first instance, summoned the court yesterday since it is apparent that the crime took place in Cartagena, where "Gloria" was when the 40 kilos of cocaine were placed on board.

Chief Petty Officer Discharged

One of the accused in this well-publicized trial is Chief Sergeant Major Genaro Arias Londono, who was acting as chief petty officer on the training ship.

The sergeant major, who went on all the worldwide cruises made by "Gloria," was transferred Tuesday afternoon from Bogota to Cartagena under heavy military guard.

Arias Londono had been in the navy for 19 years and had distinguished himself with his seriousness and responsibility in carrying out his duties.

As a result of the charges against him, the sergeant major was discharged. Almost simultaneously, the 41st military judge, Dr Victor Manuel Nieto, issued a warrant for his arrest.

Arias Londono was named by one of the drug traffickers imprisoned in Mexico as one of the people involved in the transportation of the enormous cocaine

shipment. His name also appears in an anonymous message received by authorities.

Murder Trial

A third trial has been convened by the first superior judge of Cartagena, in connection with the murder of two children and their babysitter, a crime which was committed in New York as a reprisal for a drug-related problem.

Pedro Claver Gomez Hoyos has been accused of this crime, and is being imprisoned under the orders of the above-mentioned judge.

Gomez Hoyos is accused of having murdered Oscar and Susana Toro, a brother and sister of 10 and 5 years respectively, children of Oscar and Yomaira Toro, and the children's babysitter, Lilibana Bustamante, 17. The bodies were found in an abandoned building on North Boulevard in New York City.

Special Prosecutor Appointed

Captain Roberto Guerrero Medina will act as special prosecutor in the court martial in Cartagena.

As of late yesterday it was not known which officials had been appointed to act as president, members and legal adviser in the court martial.

It has been announced that the criminal lawyer Ciro Quiroz will act as Genaro Arias Londono's defense attorney. Ciro Quiroz assisted in the investigation and other parts of the proceeding. He has repeatedly refused to defend people accused of drug dealing, but he accepted the case in this instance due to the close friendship he has with the lawyer Gustavo Arias Londono, brother of the accused.

Two Mysterious Women

To date the investigating authorities have not been able to establish the identity of the two mysterious women who boarded "Gloria" and later left casually, eluding the American secret service agents who had been following them.

Action and Omission

Among the members of the crew who are suspected of having been involved in the crime are two sailors who were found with large sums of money in their possession.

One of them said that he had the money in order to make some purchases in the United States, while the other said that he had found the money in a park.

It is possible that these two sailors, as well as others who have been suspected since the beginning, may occupy the defendants' seat in court. It was announced that all of them could be prosecuted for actions or omissions.

It is also possible that the sailor in charge of the storeroom where a considerable amount of cocaine was found, who turned over that duty to another sailor the day before the ship "Gloria" set sail for North America, will appear in court as a defendant.

Subpoenas

EL ESPECTADOR also learned that the five people who were arrested in Mexico by that country's police when they were going to Miami to receive the cocaine shipment transported by the flagship, were subpoenaed to testify in criminal court by the first circuit judge of Cartagena, Dr Judith Camargo de Borre.

Arrested in Mexico were Gilberto de Jesus Arboleda, Sergio Alvarez Carrasquilla, Pedro Claver Gomez Hoyos and his wife, Elizabeth del Carmen Giraldo Gomez.

The same judge issued warrants for the arrest of Alberto Herrera, Victor Jaramillo, Elkin N., alias "El Tao," and Jose Morales, all of whom were accused of having used the ship "Gloria" to transport the huge shipment of cocaine to the United States.

Various facts indicate that the two mysterious visitors managed to take about 10 kilos of cocaine from the ship. One of these facts is the amount of polyethylene bags found in one of the bathrooms to which they had access.

Evidently the cocaine was hidden in various compartments of the ship, among them being the place where the ventilators are installed and the area where Colombian industrial products to be sold abroad were stored. Different portions of the drug were found inside packages of a well-known coffee brand.

It was also discovered that various hermetically sealed polyethylene bags were adhered to the outside of the ship's hull, thus prevented from becoming wet. The drug traffickers intended to use divers to take the bags containing drugs from the different areas of the ship, without having to have access to the ship.



Sergeant Major Genaro Arias Londono, chief petty officer of "Gloria," will be prosecuted in the court martial.

8926

CSO: 5300

COCAINE LABORATORY RAIDED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 23 Jan 77 p 20-A

[Text] A joint operation carried out by secret agents of section F-2 of the Police Staff and the National Customs Bureau resulted in the discovery yesterday of a cocaine processing laboratory in a neighborhood south of Bogota. The operation also resulted in the arrest of two members of an international band of drug traffickers which had connections with the United States and served as a link to various Latin American countries.

According to statistical data, the laboratory had the capacity to produce great quantities of alkaloid daily. The laboratory was located in a residence on Route 6 at South 17th Street. Inside the house officials arrested Beatriz Salas de Tamayo, who was making periodic appearances before a court in Bogota due to earlier involvements in cocaine dealing. The F-2 agents also arrested a man of about 25 years of age who had no papers, and who had tried to slip through the ring of secret agents and customs units around the house.

Seizures

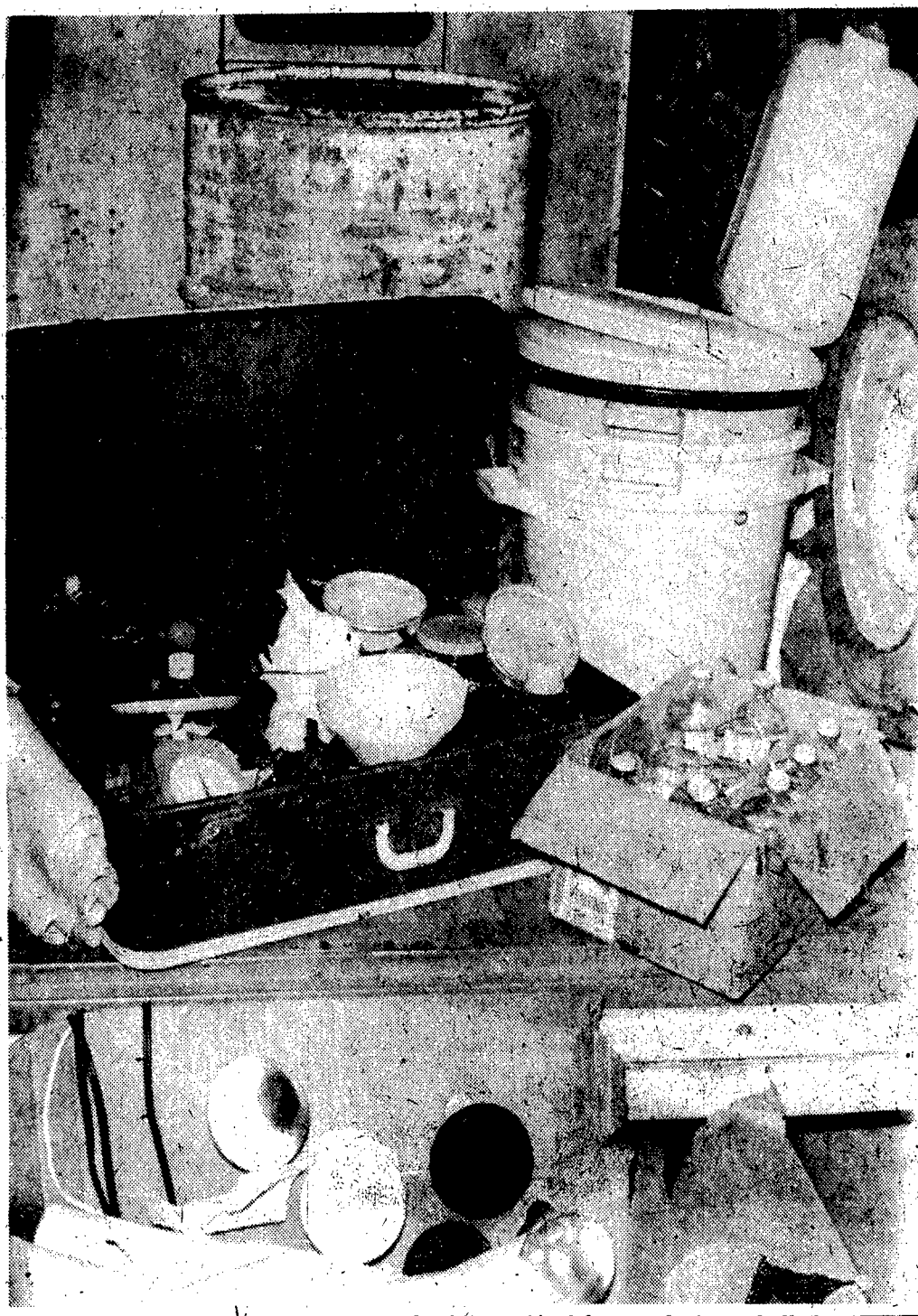
In addition to a great deal of equipment, officials found a container with 55 gallons of ether, bottles of ammonia, sulfuric acid and hydrochloric acid for the preparation of the cocaine. Investigators also seized a luxurious railcar, lamps used in the drying process, and 6 kilos of cocaine base, ready to be processed.

Raids

The raid against the drug dealers covered not only the above-mentioned residence, but other locations as well. At the time this edition was being printed, the operation was still going on south of Bogota, the F-2 agents cooperating with the members of the National Customs Bureau.

Inventory

Members of the Office of the Public Prosecutor delegated to help the police participated as representatives of the Public Ministry in order to supervise



Some of the equipment used for the manufacture of the drug, which was found in the house in a neighborhood south of Bogota where yesterday afternoon another cocaine laboratory was raided. (Photo by Manuel Rodriguez)

the confiscation of all the articles in the laboratory and the cocaine and raw material for the drug which were found there. According to reliable sources, the cocaine was valued at about 7 million pesos, and was kept under heavy guard to insure the later development of the investigation.

One Week's Preparation

The joint effort by the F-2 agents and the customs officials which achieved such spectacular results last night, continued in the search for other members of the band who live in Bogota and who found out about the operation and managed to avoid arrest.

En site millones se calcula el valor de la cocaina decomisada en el golpe de ayer contra una banda de narcotraficantes que operaba en conexi3n con mafiosos de Estados Unidos. (Foto de Manuel Rodriguez).

10.32.



The cocaine seized in yesterday's raid on a band of drug dealers operating in connection with the mafia in the United States, was valued at 7 million pesos. (Photo by Manuel Rodriguez)

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

MARIHUANA RING BUSTED IN VILLAVICENCIO

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 18-A

[Article by Hugo Montes Hernandez]

[Text] Villavicencio, 1 Feb--Units of the Department of Administrative Security (DAS) of Meta, after a cover operation, succeeded in discovering an extensive marihuana plantation and confiscating 299 kilos (26 arrobas) of the crop ready for export. The drug was valued at a million pesos by authorities and 18 people were arrested for growing it.

The secretary of that section of the DAS, Alberto Castano Arcila, told EL ESPECTADOR that the plantation was on the "El Emporio" farm on Opororio Road, under the jurisdiction of the municipality of Puerto Lleras. The plantation consisted of 5 hectares of marihuana and 299 kilos ready for export. It was also reported that the dealers had various clandestine airports for the transportation of the drug in DC 3 planes and smaller craft to the United States and Venezuela, mainly. The DAS did not say whether it had seized the planes.

The persons arrested as presumed owners of the marihuana and held under the orders of the criminal and civil judge of Puerto Lleras are: Oliverio Jimenez, Jorge Gonzalez, Manuel Enrique Rodriguez, Isauro Rayo, Romulo Rayo, Laureano Narciso Moreno, Clemente Acosta, Ecieclo Moreno, Bernardo Mendez, Bernardo Castellanos, Jose Maria Gonzalez, William Ospina, Justiniano Moreno, Carlos Arturo Toro, Jesus Antonio Guevara, Cristobal Orjuela, Jose Gabriel Quiroz and Jesus Silva Chaparro M.

In the municipality of San Jose del Guaviare on the "Vigia" farm, owned by Marco Antonio Bohorquez, the DAS eastern plains section found 2 hectares of marihuana. The owner of the property and David Polanco were arrested and remain under the orders of local authorities.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

THREE COCAINE LABORATORIES RAIDED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 9 Feb 77 p 10-A

[Text] In simultaneous operations carried out by the F-2 section of the Police Staff of the Bogota Police Department, three mobile cocaine processing laboratories were discovered in different areas of the city, six people accused of drug trafficking were arrested, and five revolvers were seized.

Seizure of Equipment

The raids took place in residences at 7C-21 40th Street, 19-44 South on Route 12C and 8-40 on Route 50-A, where in addition to the five revolvers mentioned above, ammunition for those arms, acetone, ether, acids, filter paper, scales, heaters, polyethylene bags, and other equipment used by the mafia for the processing and packaging of cocaine, were seized.

Defendants

During the three raids Aldemar de Jesus Ramirez Gonzalez, Alicia Gonzalez de Ramirez, Rafael Nivia Torres, Eliecer Nivia Torres, Maria Ramirez Molina and Ildefonso Bermudez were arrested and will be placed under the orders of the appropriate judges.

In the communique in which Maj Guillermo Leon Dietes Perez of the police information office informed the public of the series of arrests, there was no indication of whether the raided laboratories were connected or whether they operated in isolation, although everything seems to indicate that they actually belonged to a single organization.



Some of the equipment which was seized by F-2 agents in the three mobile laboratories used for the processing of cocaine, located at 7C-21 40th Street, 19-44 South Route 12C and 8-40 Route 50A.



Equipment used for the processing of cocaine which fell into the hands of F-2 agents during a raid on three laboratories in Bogota.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

TWO DRUG SMUGGLING PLANES CRASH IN GUAJIRA

Bogota El ESPECTADOR in Spanish 16 Feb 77 p 1-A, 9-A

[Text] Two craft of the "international drugs fleet," as the press of some other countries calls it, crashed today in La Guajira territory while transporting valuable cargos of marihuana.

One DC-3 aircraft crashed and burned in the Bocas de Eneas region near to the highway that goes from Riohacha to Santa Marta. Its pilot suffered serious burns and was removed from the site by members of the criminal organization who took him to a place not identified by the authorities. The plane was later almost totally destroyed and it was impossible to salvage its cargo.

A light aircraft of foreign registry also crashed in upper Guajira, but the fate of its occupants is unknown. This plane, too, was engaged in transporting a certain quantity of drugs [sic].

Flight of aircraft belonging to trafficker groups have been all too common in La Guajira and other coastal regions, successfully evading capture by the authorities. One such plane remains parked at the Valledupar airport without anyone having shown up to claim it for almost a year, since when it made a night emergency landing on one of the runways.

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

COCAINE SEIZURE IN MEDELLIN

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 12 Feb 77 p 1-A, 11-A

[Text] MEDELLIN, 11 Feb--Cocaine valued at approximately 12 million pesos was seized today from an old woman, 63 years of age, who was attempting to transport it to New York in two suitcases.

Officials of the F-2's narcotics group seized the drug from Maria del Transito Carvajal Hernandez just as she was about to board an Avianca flight going first to Barranquilla and then on to New York.

The alkaloid seized had a purity of more than 90 percent according to a preliminary assay made by experts of the DECEYPOL's Criminal Studies Department.

This is the first time that a person of that age has fallen into the hands of the local authorities with such a quantity of drugs.

F-2 investigators speculated that the woman was presumably selected for this task because of her advanced age, calculated to arouse less suspicion on the part of the authorities.

Comment: What a name for a runner! Maria del Transito!! It pays to advertise?

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

COCAINE LABORATORY DISCOVERED IN COGUA

Equipment, Ring Members Seized

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 15 Jan 77 p 11-A

/Text/ In a joint action conducted by personnel of the Police Staff F-2 and the Administrative Department of Security /DAS/, the largest cocaine processing laboratory ever discovered in the country was raided and members of an international ring of drug traffickers, with connections in the United States, Peru and other Latin American countries, were arrested.

In 'Casa Vieja'

The huge laboratory--which according to estimates had the capacity to process a large amount of the alkaloid daily--was operating in a farmhouse located in the outskirts of the Cundimarca town of Cogua, a farmhouse called "Casa Vieja" which is owned by a woman whose name appears on the list of persons arrested. She is described as one of the chieftains of this vast organization.

Money and Porcelains

In addition to a large amount of equipment and chemical products used in the preparation of cocaine, the investigators confiscated several luxury automobiles, \$30,000 cash, 3,000 bolivares, a small amount of the alkaloid ready for sale and contraband porcelain, American cigarettes and other merchandise worth 1 million pesos.

Simultaneous Raids

The operation against the ring of drug traffickers was conducted not only at the farmhouse which served as the headquarters for the laboratory but also in nine other places in Bogota with the participation of a total of 120 men, including DAS detectives, F-2 secret agents and uniformed police officers.

Other Organizations

Representatives of other official organizations such as the National Customs Inspection Office, the Superintendency for the Control of Foreign Exchange and the Office of the Attorney General Delegation in the Judicial Police department participated in the operation, the job of the first of these was to confiscate the large amount of contraband merchandise; that of the second to determine the relationship between the dollars and bolivares found in possession of the criminal activity; and that of the last organization as delegates of the Public Ministry was surveillance over the seizure of the laboratory equipment, cocaine and raw materials for same which were found there.

Revolvers and Shotguns

In the "Casa Vieja" farmhouse where the clandestine factory operated as well as in the other buildings which were raided in Bogota, the police confiscated several handguns, two shotguns and other materials which will be turned over to the 51st Criminal Examining Magistrate, along with the persons arrested. This judge is responsible for pursuing the investigation.

One Month of Preparation

The vast joint operation which brought such excellent results and which was still continuing last night in the search for other members of the ring was initiated a little over a month ago; however, its culmination--that is to say the raid on the laboratory which was operating in the above-mentioned Cundimarca town--started at 2330 hours last Thursday.

Two Peruvians

Among the group of persons arrested, the number of which was not stated but which according to official sources ranges from 10 to 15, there are two Peruvians, one of whom is identified as Luis Mulque Cardenas Guzman. This man is the son of the well-known international drug trafficker, Guillermo Cardenas, alias "El Mosca." The latter is a criminal who was involved in several investigations conducted by the Colombian authorities, including one initiated in Leticia for counterfeiting money. "El Mosca" also was arrested in the Brazilian town of Tabatinga for drug trafficking. At present, it is not known whether he is still in prison or at large.

Principal Member

Also arrested was Veronica Vargas de Rivera, owner of the farmhouse "Casa Vieja" which served as the site of the laboratory and of a very luxurious residence, a real mansion equipped with a swimming pool located at the corner of 102d and 17th Streets in Bogota. This woman was named as one of the principal chieftains of this criminal organization.

In the residence mentioned above, where the \$30,000 and the 3,000 bolivares cash were confiscated, the police also arrested Esther Rivera de Sosa, sister of Veronica, who had arrived in the city a few days ago from Venezuela where she apparently had become a naturalized citizen. This woman is suspected of being one of the most important connections of the ring and seems to have been the person who brought the large sums of money to the city from Caracas.

The Caretaker

Francisco Leon Ibanez, the caretaker of the farmhouse "Casa Vieja" was among those arrested. As for the laboratory, it had very sophisticated equipment for the clandestine activity and a large number of containers to hold the raw materials and other chemical products used in the process. In addition to the equipment, the following materials were also seized: six crocks containing a total of 400 gallons of ether and four other 100-gallon containers of acetone, as well as 480 grams of cocaine and several more of the alkaloid in the processing stage.

According to the F-2 and DAS officers and officials who directed the operation, this is one of the largest ever carried out in the country against the drug trafficking "mafias," not only because of the band's vast connections, but also because of the large capacity of the raided laboratory and the modern equipment in it.

During the intensive search conducted in Bogota by the investigators, another individual was arrested who, although he seems not to be a member of the dismantled ring of drug traffickers, is described as one of the largest exporters of marihuana operating in the country. His name is Jose de Jesus Marin Jaramillo, a man who has an enormous fortune and who was described as the owner of the DC-7 airplane which burned in the plains region with a shipment of marihuana.

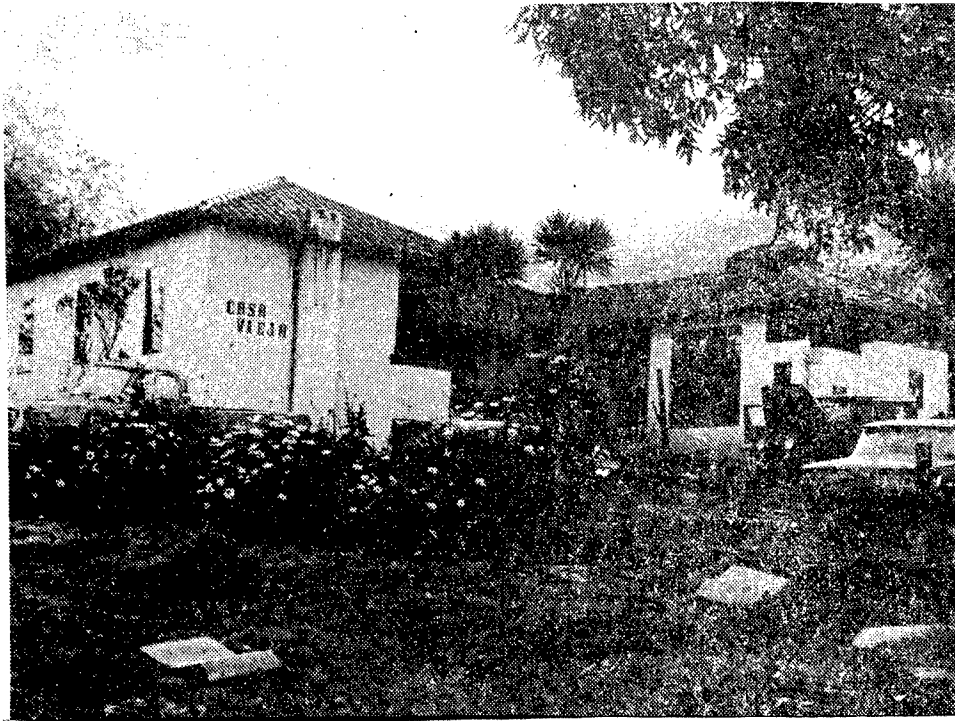
As the reader will recall, this incident took place a few weeks ago in the region of "Vista-Hermosa," Meta, when the aircraft loaded with marihuana was damaged mechanically on takeoff and burned. Three persons lost their lives in the fire, all of them American nationals.

Pilot Sought

In connection with the ring of cocaine manufacturers who operated in the "Casa Vieja" laboratory, the DAS detectives and secret agents were yesterday seeking Jaime Francesqui, a pilot who was described as one of the persons responsible for flying the planes used by the organization to transport raw materials and processed cocaine. It was learned that this individual is or was up until recently employed by the Tarca aviation company.



Part of the large amount of equipment in the cocaine processing laboratory discovered during a joint DAS and F-2 action in the vicinity of Cogua. The clandestine establishment belonged to an international ring which was practically dismantled with the arrest of most of its members, including two Peruvians.



In this farmhouse located in the vicinity of the Cundimarca town of Cogua-- a few kilometers from Zipaquira--DAS and F-2 discovered the largest cocaine processing laboratory ever raided in the country. Personnel of these two organizations simultaneously conducted nine raids in Bogota and arrested members of the ring of drug traffickers, whose number was set at 10 to 15 persons.



The back of the Cogua farmhouse where the large cocaine processing laboratory operated which was discovered by DAS and F-2. It was cleverly laid out so that loading and unloading operations could be carried on without persons not belonging to the drug trafficking ring being aware of any movement from the outside. (EL ESPECTADOR photos)

DAS-F-2 Seek Remaining Members of Ring

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 16 Jan 77 p 13-A

/Text/ Yesterday personnel of DAS and F-2 continued their search with a view to the arrest of the remaining members of the ring of drug traffickers which was dismantled upon discovery of a large cocaine processing laboratory in a farmhouse located in the vicinity of the Cundimarca town of Cogua, described as one of the most complete and modern labs ever raided in the country.

Contraband and Dollars

The successful operation was the result of several weeks of careful and patient work by personnel of these two organizations and consisted of a series of simultaneous strikes during which not only was the large laboratory discovered but also many members of the organization were arrested and 1 million pesos worth of contraband merchandise and \$30,000 and 3,000 bolivares cash were confiscated. The money doubtless was earmarked for the purchase of raw materials and other products for the processing of the alkaloid.



**CARLOS ALFONSO DELGADO
ALARCON**



**VERONICA RIVERA DE
VARGAS**



**LUIS CARDENAS
MOLQUI**

Peruvians

Two of those arrested in the series of raids were Peruvian nationals: Carlos Alfonso Delgado Alarcon and Luis Cardenas Molqui [sic]. It was learned that the latter is the son of Guillermo Cardenas Guzman, alias "Mosca Loca" [Crazy Fly], one of the most important drug traffickers operating in Latin America.

This newspaper learned yesterday that "Mosca Loca" was involved in an investigation for counterfeiting money in the Colombian port of Leticia. He was also investigated in the Brazilian town of Tabatinga for drug trafficking and in Peru for the same crime.

The Owner

Veronica Rivera de Vargas was also arrested by the investigators. She has a large fortune; and it was established that not only is she the owner of the farmhouse "Casa Vieja" in Cogua, in which the laboratory operated, but she also has a very luxurious mansion located at the corner of 102d and 17th Streets. The mansion has the most modern appointments, including a swimming pool, and is worth several million pesos.

Strategic Advantages

The woman acquired the farmhouse in which the clandestine factory was installed about 2 years ago not only because of its proximity to Zipaquira--7 kilometers--and easy transportation to Bogota, but also because of its strategic location within its 10 plus acre perimeter there is a hill from which a large stretch of land can be viewed, particularly the access roads.

The promontory, in addition to being a lookout, was used by the ring for the drying of raw materials for the manufacture of cocaine to the tune of several kilos per day.

The farmhouse gave the appearance of being a comfortable country house and had been placed in the care of one of Veronica's sisters and a brother-in-law, as well as several Boyaca laborers. Because of the innocent appearance of the building, none of the neighbors had suspected that it was the center of operations of an international ring of drug traffickers from which large amounts of cocaine were shipped to foreign markets.

Drug Chief

The owner of "Casa Vieja" is the wife of Victor Julio Vargas Vargas, a man with a long history of drug trafficking who has been a fugitive for several months since his escape with other Colombians from a Lima prison where he had been confined in connection with an investigation related to drugs. A thorough investigation was initiated in the Peruvian capital into the escape of Vargas and his companions and it is said that the escape was achieved through the use of bribes to prison guards and other officials of the prison.

Vargas is described as one of the most important drug trafficking chieftains who is said to have directed several drug trafficking organizations and had several light planes for the transport of the cocaine out of the country.

Others Arrested

EL ESPECTADOR also reported in yesterday's edition that the following persons were among the prisoners: Esther Rivera de Sosa, sister of Veronica de Vargas, a naturalized Venezuelan, who had arrived in Bogota a few days ago from Caracas; the caretaker of "Casa Vieja," Francisco Leon Ibanez, and his wife, as well as others whose names have not been released.

Search Continues

Finally, the investigators were making a supreme effort yesterday to locate the husband of the laboratory owner. The police suspect that he is in Bogota. They are also seeking Jaime Francesqui, an airplane pilot who is described as the person charged with flying the cocaine produced in the farmhouse out of the country. The police were also hoping to locate other members of the vast organization which had connections in the United States, Peru, Mexico, Venezuela and other Latin American countries.

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COLOMBIA

TWO PERUVIANS ARRESTED WITH COCAINE

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 16 Jan 77 p 13-A

/Text/ Two Peruvian women were arrested at noon yesterday at the Eldorado International Airport when 7 kilograms of cocaine were found in their baggage, according to information released by the authorities.

The two women arrived in Bogota from Lima on Lufthansa flights which landed at 1200 and 1700 hours.

One of the prisoners, Lorena Pinzas Diaz, is a 14-year-old minor. She told airport Judicial Police agents that she was not aware of the secret contents of the suitcases.

The other prisoner, approximately 30 years of age, is named Lucrecia Esther Ibaceta. She had been spotted quite some time ago by the Colombian authorities because of her repeated entries into the country.

The Arrests

According to statements by several detectives assigned to the Eldorado International Airport, the nervousness of the two "mules" (a term used to describe persons who work for powerful drug trafficking rings) gave them away as they were waiting in line to pass through customs inspection upon their arrival in this country.

The four suitcases were immediately opened, and the detectives noted false bottoms constructed roughly from plywood. When the false bottoms were opened, the police found a substance packaged carefully in plastic bags.

The substance was taken to the Legal Medicine Office where it was weighed and analyzed and shown to be cocaine.

The two women, who made their preliminary statements before a Judicial Police official, refused to reveal the names of the owners of the shipment and denied their guilt in transporting the drug.

Both women were taken to the DAS /Administrative Department of Security/ prison.



The four suitcases of the two Peruvian women who were arrested yesterday at the Eldorado Airport with 7 kilos of cocaine in false bottoms constructed of plywood. The two prisoners said that they did not know what was in their suitcases. (Photo by Gonzalez)

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COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

MARIHUANA PLANTATION DISCOVERY--The largest marihuana plantation discovered in the past few years has been found by police in the jurisdiction of Tamesis municipality of Antioquia Department. The plantation contained 40,000 plants whose value was estimated at several million pesos. The police arrested Omar Restrepo who is being kept incommunicado in the prison of Tamesis, located 111 km south of the capital of Medellin. [Bogota Circuito Todelar in Spanish 0000 GMT 26 Feb 77 PA]

FRENCHMAN ARRESTED WITH COCAINE--Bogota--F-2 secret agents today captured Frenchman Jacques Robert while trying to leave for France with 5 kg of cocaine hidden in a falso bottom suitcase. [Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 21 Feb 77 PA]

CUSTOMS OFFICE EMPLOYEES ARRESTED--German Aquilino Vega and Jose E. Parra, employees of the customs office in Bogota, have been arrested on charges of drug trafficking. They were caught in the act of receiving a large sum of money from Jairo Henry Silva, with whom they had conspired recently to send a cocaine shipment to the United States. Silva managed to escape. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0220 GMT 26 Feb 77 PA]

COCAINE LABORATORY DISMANTLED--Medellin--The Colombian Administrative Department of Security (DAS) discovered a cocaine laboratory in downtown Medellin where they seized 2 kilos of cocaine. The authorities arrested two Argentines, Gerardo Alberto Napal and Juan Carlos Esperanza, and three Colombians, Duban de Jesus Lopera, Carlos Arturo Lopez Gomez and German Dario Acosta Velez. [Bogota Circuito Todelar in Spanish 0000 GMT 17 Feb 77 PA]

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

COCAINE PROCESSING LABORATORY SEIZED

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 19 Jan 77 p 20

/Text/ Four drug traffickers who had a laboratory for the manufacture of narcotics and cocaine paste worth 1 million sucres were discovered and arrested by Interpol agents.

After extensive investigations, police officers of the Narcotics Department went to the canton of Montecristi, Manabi. In a place called La Carcel, they found a laboratory for the refining of drugs, particularly cocaine, which was owned by Quinto Quinteros Reyes.

The owner was arrested along with his confederates and work companions: Manuel Enrique Cajiao Cevallos, Adelaida Barcia Murillo and Alfredo Yuliberto Montalvo Costa. The four prisoners will be investigated carefully to determine their activities, especially the scope of their drug sales and distribution activities.

The Interpol agents also confiscated two pickup trucks, one Izuzu 1500 and one red Toyota without license plates, which were used for the distribution of drugs.

The police also seized liquid substances such as: nine 60-gallon cans of ether, eight large bottles of hydrochloric acid, four bottles of sulfuric acid, one glass pressure vessel and other equipment needed to operate a cocaine refining laboratory.

The police also found cocaine paste worth more than 1 million sucres ready to be refined.

The prisoners, after pretrial investigation and the collection of evidence, will be turned over to the proper authorities for trial and sentencing, according to Interpol.

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ECUADOR

ANTI-DRUG EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN INITIATED

Quayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 27 Jan 77 p 3

/Text/ Quito. In the face of increased drug trafficking and excessive consumption of narcotic and psychotropic drugs by the young people of the country, the Ministry of Education has undertaken an interministerial campaign designed to stop and eradicate this social menace.

Phases of the Plan

To this end, the Ministry of Education, with the collaboration of the Ministry of Health and the technical departments of Health Education and Drug Control, has initiated a program at the national level which has already been implemented in the city of Guayaquil and is becoming operative in the city of Quito.

The plan has two phases. The first involves the training of orientation personnel and social workers from fiscal and municipal organizations of the country by means of 10-day seminars which will focus on the following areas of the drug addiction problem: sociology, chemistry, legal, educational, theoretical and practical rehabilitation sociology.

The second phase is aimed at the technical-teaching personnel of secondary schools and involves multiple actions. Orientation personnel and social workers who are already trained will organize similar seminars in schools where they will work with principals, vice principals, inspectors, teachers of psychology, biology, chemistry, natural sciences, physical education and course directing teachers.

Technical Personnel

The seminar instructors are specialized professionals, accredited by the organizing institutions and other collaborating entities.

The training plan includes a varied spectrum of motivational activities, human relations and apprenticeship which will utilize modern teaching techniques and resources.

In addition to the actions programed for the cities of Quito and Guayaquil, the Ministry of Education will implement similar programs in the capitals of the border provinces: Loja, Machala, Tulcan and Esmeraldas, in consideration of the involvement of these regions in the incidence of illicit drug trafficking.

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ECUADOR

BRIEFS

THREE TRAFFICKERS CAPTURED--A drug trafficker who was about to purchase cocaine paste worth approximately 600,000 sucres was arrested by Pichincha Interpol agents, with the collaboration of El Oro and Loja police officers. The prisoner was identified as Sergio Giron. Later Giron's companion, Tomas Guerrero, was arrested. The two confessed that they had had wide experience in drug trafficking which was their way of earning a living. After careful investigation, the police arrested a third trafficker named Enrique Sanchez, a partner in crime of the other two men. The three prisoners will be turned over to the proper authorities for trial and sentencing. /Text/ /Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Jan 77 p 25/ 8143

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

ATTORNEY GENERAL ASKS FOR U.S., PERUVIAN COOPERATION

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 15-A

[Article by Rafael Medina and Victor Payan]

[Text] The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic requested the collaboration of the police of Lima, Peru and Los Angeles, California to dismantle an international ring which is operating in several countries of the world and which has limitless resources to carry on cocaine trafficking.

The ring was uncovered when federal agents assigned to the Mexico City airport arrested American Miguel Ricardo Flores as he was attempting to bring cocaine into the country worth more than 3 million pesos, hidden in a movie projector, minutes after having arrived in this city.

When federal agents questioned the prisoner, they learned that the alkaloid had been bought in Lima, Peru from Jose Castro, "El Flaco" [Skinny], who had instructions to give it to the former for transport to Mexico by air from which point it was to be taken to Los Angeles, California overland in a special automobile with secret compartments in which the drug was to have been hidden.

Flores also named a black man who is nicknamed "El Negro Jim" [Black Jim], the principal owner of bars and nightspots, as the head of the organization.

He mentioned the Escandia and Brea Inn bars as the places where talks between world drug traffickers are held to carry out the drug deal operations in which cocaine is brought in from Peru.

When he talked about "Negro Jim," Flores said that he "is an extremely powerful man who has the complicity of a number of police officials who, in exchange for large sums of money, keep silent and conceal the illicit activities which he is engaged in."

He stated that the drug trafficker almost always travels in his late-model, steel gray, completely armored Rolls Royce automobile and that he is known in the Los Angeles underworld.

The American prisoner was arraigned yesterday before the 4th Criminal District Judge, Raul Diaz Infante, on a charge of perpetrating crimes against public health.

The accused confirmed his remarks to the Federal Public Ministry agent in his preliminary statement given to the secretary of that court, Hector Marin Cuervo.

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MEXICO

CORRUPT JUDGE FIRED

Nuevo Lared EL MANANA in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 2-A

[Text] Mexico D. F.--Juan Munoz Sanchez, the District Court judge in Tamaulipas residing in Nuevo Laredo, was dismissed from his position due to the grave irregularities which took place during his tenure of office.

Yesterday, Supreme Court sources reported this after the plenary meeting of the Supreme Court justices at which other matters of great importance for the successful operation of the judicial branch were also taken up.

The dismissal of Judge Munoz Sanchez was decreed after Salvador Mondragon Guerra, the court inspector who visited the two Nuevo Laredo courts 2 weeks ago, made a detailed report on his conduct.

Reports which leaked out of the back rooms of the Supreme Court also say the federal judge made personal use of vehicles involved in proceedings and that he was seen with remarkable frequency in cars belonging to known drug traffickers.

Yesterday, Ricardo Rodriguez Villarreal, first secretary of the Third District Court, said during an interview with EL MANANA on the dismissal of Judge Munoz Sanchez that he had absolutely no information on this decision by the justices of the Supreme Court.

He said there is no basis for this "rumor" since, generally, when a judge is removed from his post because he is dismissed or relocated, the first secretary is immediately informed of this so that he will assume the duties of the judge until a replacement is appointed.

"I have no official information on this. I only know that Munoz Sanchez requested a 4-day leave of absence to comply with a summons made to him by the Supreme Court."

On the other hand, at the conclusion of his visits to the Second and Third District Courts, Salvador Mondragon, the court inspector, said in regard to the conduct of Munoz Sanchez, "I support and defend judges who serve honestly but I fire those who are at fault."

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

SINALOA IS WORLD CONTACT CENTER FOR TRAFFICKERS

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 6

[Article by Javier Zamora Cisneros]

[Text] Acapulco, Guerrero, 1 Feb. The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic appointed several Public Ministry agents in a number of states to be coordinators of the anti-drug campaign which it is conducting against heroin and marihuana conjointly with the army and the state governments.

In the State of Guerrero, the Attorney General's Office is carrying out reconnaissance activities--along with the army and the state police--principally in the municipalities of Coyuca de Benitez, Tecpan de Galeana and Papanao.

Military sources report that in the face of the systematic pressure of army surveillance there is the probability that drug traffickers--except in Sinaloa and Huerrero--are seeking other areas for the cultivation of marihuana and poppies.

The same sources indicated that continuing army action is countered by thousands of stratagems which must be overcome in the locating of drug fields. These stratagems include all of those imaginable to which a new one is always being added.

At present, 241 criminal cases are now being tried in the Guerrero District Court, of which 200 are for crimes against public health. "Most of the prisoners involved, including more than 20 foreigners, are all from the United States and Canada," according to one official of this court.

Twelfth Naval Region

Elsewhere, Vice Admiral Hector Elias Robles, commander of the 12th Naval Military Region located in Acapulco, reported that "the navy is working in collaboration with the ground forces" and added that there are sectors covered by the 8th and 23d Companies.

The military officer said that on the Guerrero coasts there are 32 ships ready to take action against piracy, arms trafficking and in general against drug trafficking.

After indicating that the navy has Albatross seaplanes for surveillance activities along the coast "which carry from 18 to 20 men and have inter-communication systems to link them with the ships," the commander of the 12th Naval Region added that Azteca patrols boats can attain speeds of 25 knots. "They are English boats with quick mobility" and "no fishing boat can travel as fast."

One Account of Drug Trafficking

This reporter's research into drug trafficking led him to talk with a former investigator who after an express promise to not reveal his identity made the following remarks:

He stated initially that before the devaluation of the Mexican peso, it was estimated that drug traffickers in Sinaloa were handling 3 billion pesos worth of drugs annually, much more than legal activities such as the cultivation of vegetables which amounted to 2 billion pesos.

He gave assurances that Sinaloa not only controls the entire Republic but is also drug trafficking's contact with the whole world because "cocaine from Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador comes here." He added that from Sinaloa "distribution is made to the United States."

Our informant pointed out that Sinaloa is controlled by two drug trafficking personalities, one of whom handles cocaine and the other heroin; however, both handle marihuana. "In the Tierra Blanca barrio," he said, "there are hit men in the pay of the drug traffickers."

The fortune of one of these personalities is estimated to be approximately 10 billion pesos. He said, "And the other is an inmate of north prison who has several hotels in various parts of the country. He is also the owner of a company of executive jets."

"At the beginning of 1968, in February or March," he continued, "the LOS ANGELES TIMES published the names of the most notorious drug traffickers. The first two were these personalities, and in third place was a former governor" who "has a record with Interpol."

On Arms

The investigator said that although the army has FALN [expansion unknown] rifles with 25-round clips, the drug traffickers have R-16 rifles "with 75-round clips. However, it should be noted that this is the least powerful weapon they have. Their best weapons are Belgian and Czech machine guns, many of them with silencers, which burn nitroglycerine instead of powder.

He asserted, "In Sinaloa, we have the case of a drug trafficker who carries one of these machine guns suspended from his neck."

On the Origin of Drugs

In the opinion of our interviewee, the Chinese brought poppy cultivation to Sinaloa, which "requires a very sophisticated technique for the planting of poppies and the extraction of gum from them."

"As soon as the petals fall from the flower," he said, "the pod is incised and harvesting is done at 1200 and 0200 hours. The gum is removed from the pods--which is a dark cherry color--with a razor blade and is collected in the hand. Later, it is rubbed until gradually a ball is formed. The gum is opium."

He stated that the gum is cooked continually for 24 hours to purify it and turn it into novocaine. "Then it becomes heroin which in Sinaloa is coffee colored because they have never been able to make it white. They call it TB heroin in honor of the Tierra Blanca barrio. Then there is a chemical process to separate the morphine crystals."

The only thing coming into Sinaloa is cocaine, as opium is processed here, he observed.

Later, he said, "The drug traffickers no longer wish to carry cocaine to the United States for fear of the heavy penalties. Now they wrap the drug in plastic, attach it to a heavy object to make it sink in water. They attach a buoy to it and drop it on the high seas. A yacht comes by, hauls it in and at the same time throws back money wrapped in plastic, while all the while looking like fishing is taking place."

The investigator said that during World War II, the cultivation of poppies was not forbidden in Sinaloa and that at that time the state was one of the principal exporters of opium to China, hidden in shark fins.

About Prices

In another connection, he stated that a kilo of pressed marihuana, or a "brick", as it is called was bought from the peasants--"at least before devaluation"--for 120 pesos. "On the border, the price went up to 300 pesos and in the United States a pound went for \$300."

"Until very recently," he continued, "a ton of marihuana cost \$600,000 in the United States."

As for cocaine, "1 gram at wholesale is 350 pesos and at retail, in the Zona Rosa for example, it costs up to 1,000 pesos."

The investigator recounted, in the form of an anecdote, that some time ago a famous singer went to Culiacan to participate in a benefit for the Red Cross.

"He was supposed to receive 20,000 pesos; however, he didn't ask for money but cocaine which was brought to him in a small Sal de Uvas [Grape Salt] bottle. Generally, performers who go to Sinaloa collect in drugs."

Our interviewee said that in Sinaloa there are no incidents of machine-gunned police officers because disputes take place between drug traffickers, principally over debts. "Over questions of markets, since there is nothing between them except a man's word. There are no IOU's nor signed receipts not to mention letters. Everything is by verbal agreement."

Finally and in response to a question, he responded that drug trafficking will end when the U.S. market is ended. "When?" he asked this reporter. "Never, right?" He was replying more to himself than to this reporter once again.

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MEXICO

POPPY FIELDS DESTROYED IN FIVE STATES

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Feb 77 p 26-A

[Article by Victor Payan]

[Text] Five tons of pure heroin, which on the drug trafficking black market would have sold for some 5 billion pesos, were destroyed during the last 10 days by Federal Judicial Police agents in 648 poppy fields in the states of Sinaloa, Oaxaca, Jalisco, Guerrero and Michoacan.

The attorney general of the Republic, Oscar Flores, released this information yesterday and stated that these actions had been made possible thanks to the intensive air surveillance being carried out over the entire national territory.

The attorney general said that this is the time of year when the poppy growers begin the collection of "gum" which is used to obtain raw opium. The raw opium is subsequently converted into heroin through the use of chemical processes.

The heaviest strike against drug trafficking occurred in the state of Sinaloa where pilots in the service of the Attorney General's Office destroyed 11.5 million plants covering a surface of 571,200 square meters in the towns of Cerro del El Triste, Revolcadero, El Frijolar and Arroyo de los Felix, all in the municipality of Badiraguato.

In Guerrero, Federal Judicial Police, using light planes and helicopters, destroyed 94 poppy fields covering 186,000 square meters bearing 3.7 million plants in the towns of Rio de Caballo, municipality of Tlacotepec, and Bajos de la Laguna.

In Michoacan, the fields were found in the populated areas of Curindalei, El Pinzon ranch, Andamio hill and north of Curindal hill.

In Oaxaca, the fields were in the towns of San Pablo Guila, municipality of Tlacolula, and Jalisco, Tonalá.

MEXICO

HERNANDEZ: END OF MARIHUANA IN THREE STATES BY MAY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Feb 77 p 25-A

[Article by Roberto Martinez Montenegro]

[Text] Badiraguato, Sinaloa, 10 Feb. Gen Jose Hernandez Toledo, commander in chief of Operation CONDOR, after saying "if the secretary of defense, Gen Felix Galvan, said so that's the way it's going to be," stated that by next May an end will have been put to the growing of marihuana and poppies in Chihuahua, Durango and Sinaloa.

He added that the 2,300 soldiers and federal agents participating in the anti-drug trafficking fight have achieved good results in the 20 square kilometers in the mountain region where the operation was carried out in the last 20 days.

The general said that during this period the following items had been confiscated: 100 tons of marihuana; 5 kilos of heroin; more than 1,000 firearms, including pistols, machine guns and rifles; equipment from four clandestine laboratories in which opium was processed; hydraulic pumps; two tractors; hose; and 17 vehicles.

Hernandez Toledo reported that 42 drug traffickers were arrested and arraigned before federal authorities.

At the military garrison of this town, which until recently was one of the principal centers for the production of marihuana and opium, Gen Jose Hernandez, in the presence of Gov Alfonso G. Calderon and other officials, showed newsmen the confiscated drugs, firearms and other equipment.

Arbitrary Actions Ruled Out

The general denied categorically the charges leveled against some army units which were said to be acting in an arbitrary fashion against citizens.

On this subject, he said, "I can say with certainty that the people have been respected. We are not interested in strong-arm tactics; it is

important that we fight drug trafficking because it is not right that our children should suffer on account of drugs, the production and consumption of which we consider the greatest crime against humanity."

He indicated that "there are enough arms in the mountains to 'equip a small revolution.'"

The state governor said that drug trafficking in Sinaloa has increased because of negligence and that by definitively eliminating it the people of Sinaloa will remove a social stigma from their backs.

Early this morning, anti-drug personnel confiscated 20 tons of marihuana; stopped three trucks; and arrested traffickers Jose Luis Medina, Margarito Garcia Chavez, Alvaro Rodriguez Medina, Antonio Araujo Vega, Jose Rodriguez Ozaya, Juan Manuel Betran and Victor Gastelum Beltran.

A total of 4,543 poppy fields and 713 marihuana fields was destroyed.

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MEXICO

ARMY SEIZES WEAPONS, DRUGS FROM SINALOA TRAFFICKERS

Success of 'Operation Condor'

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 10 Feb 77 p 7

[Article by Leopoldo Aviles Meza]

[Text] Badiraguato, Sinaloa, 9 February. Only 20 days after the start of "Operation CONDOR," which includes a general sweep against drug growing and trafficking in the states of Chihuahua, Durango and Sinaloa, the army has confiscated 1,000 firearms, including 560 high-powered weapons; 5 kilos of heroin; 100 tons of marihuana; 31.200 kilos of poppy seed; and 337 kilos of marihauan seed. Additionally, some 42 persons were arrested.

These results were obtained during the "sweep" by army and Federal Judicial Police personnel through 20,000 square kilometers, including the destruction of 4,543 poppy fields covering 960 hectares, according to information released today by Maj Gen Jose Hernandez Toledo, commander of "Operation CONDOR," during a press conference which was attended by state governor Alfonso G. Calderon.

"These results," declared Gen Hernandez Toledo, "are only an indication of the great things that can be accomplished by fighting the growing, and selling of drugs in Sinaloa, Chihuahua and Durango, since we have barely covered a fourth of the 80,000 kilometers which are considered 'critical.' This illicit activity, in which peasants are participating, with their families as peones, victims of hunger and misery prevailing in the mountainous region of these three states."

Up until now, said the chief of "Operation CONDOR," only one armed assault has been attempted against army troops working in the mountains, although there were no bloody incidents, in that the two snipers failed in their efforts and were arrested by a military patrol which was destroying a marihuana field.

It was also reported that during the last action, carried out early this morning, five persons were arrested in the outskirts of the municipality of Badiraguato as they were traveling in three trucks loaded with 10 tons of marihuana.

At almost the same time, on El Bledal ranch, north of Guadalupe and Calvo, state of Chihuahua, four persons were stopped and subsequently arrested. The following were confiscated from them: two tractors, one pickup truck, one R-15 rifle, one 9-millimeter pistol, one M-1 carbine and 6 tons of marihuana.

Additional Details

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Feb 77 p 25-A

[Article by Gonzalo G. Langarica]

[Text] Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 10 Feb. Today army troops confiscated the following materials at "La Huaracha" ranch: a shipment of 50 tons of marihuana worth 180 million pesos, as well as high-powered firearms. They arrested American Joe Walker who attempted to bribe the soldiers with 0.5 million pesos to let him go. This action took place in the municipality of San Ignacio where the drug was burned yesterday.

Gen Jose Hernandez Toledo, commander of the campaign directed against the growing of drug plants, known as "Operation CONDOR," stated that the action was initiated when a trailer carrying 8 tons of marihuana to the United States was discovered. The arrest was made in the town of El Arenoso. Military officers ordered the "razing" of a 15-kilometer area.

During the search, "17 centers," or "cultivation points," were discovered where the marihuana was already sheaved.

Gen Ricardo Cervantes Garcia Rojas, commander of the army units, reported that one person had been arrested at "La Huaracha" ranch during the operation, namely Raul Lopez Gonzalez, or Joe Walker, with the 50 tons of marihuana and 10 high-powered firearms, including rifles and machine guns. Walker offered General Cervantes 0.5 million pesos for his freedom.

The general rejected the bribe, and the prisoner was turned over to the proper authorities.

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CSO: 5300

ACTION TAKEN TO ELIMINATE CORRUPTION FROM FJP

People's Jury To Hear Case of FJP Agent

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 12 Jan 77 p 4

[Text] Another People's Jury has been announced for the 1st District Court. This time the accused is another Federal Judicial Police agent who is charged with an official crime which falls within the framework of the federal law of responsibilities.

According to the pertinent police file, number 125776 [sic], former agent Angel Mota Aguilar traveled from Hermosillo to Ciudad Obregon to perform duties in connection with the anti-drug trafficking campaign. When he arrived in that city, he went to a barbershop where, together with a man named Luis Garduno, he approached Pablo Victoria Garcia and told him that he knew the latter was engaged in the sale of toxic pills and that if he did not give 5,000 pesos to Angel Mota he was going "to take him in." To this Pablo Victoria replied that he did not have the money. Angel Mota became angry and told both the latter and Luis Garduno to drive him in a Chevrolet automobile to the "San Jorge" Hotel. There, once again they asked Pablo Victoria for the above-mentioned sum of money. He finally handed over the money for fear of physical harm. The sum in question was given by check to the Banco Ganadero y Agricola, S.A. [Livestock and Agricultural Bank, Inc.], Ciudad Obregon branch, by the prisoner.

Within the legal time limit, the District Judge ordered former agent Mota Aguilar to prison; and at the time it presented its conclusions, the Federal Public Ministry requested that the penalty provided by Article 19 of the federal law of responsibilities be applied to the prisoner.

Jury Finds FJP Agent Innocent

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 14 Jan 77 p 4

[Text] Hermosillo, Sonora, 13 Jan. The People's Jury found Federal Judicial Police agent Angel Mota Aguilar innocent. He had been charged by an alleged

drug trafficker with having demanded 5,000 pesos to leave him alone. The trial was heard in the 1st District Court and lasted barely 1 hour and 15 minutes.

Pablo Victoria Garcia, an alleged toxic pill trafficker, accused Angel Mota Aguilar of having asked him for 5,000 pesos in exchange for not bothering him in his activities. He said that he had made out a check to bearer which he obtained from an exchange institution and that afterward he had given the money to the accused.

However, after the deliberation period, the People's Jury unanimously declared the defendant innocent. The latter will be released immediately.

A few days ago, another People's Jury found two Federal Judicial Police agents guilty of having accepted money from drug traffickers whom they had arrested.

Attorney Jorge Pesqueira was defense counsel of this trial, while the prosecutor was Federal Public Ministry agent Jose Piedad Silva Arroyo.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FJP AGENTS TO BE TRIED FOR ACCEPTING BRIBES

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 8 Jan 77 p 4

[Text] Hermosillo, Jan 7. Two Federal Judicial Police agents charged with having received 4,000 pesos in exchange for the freedom of two prisoners will be tried in the 1st District Court by the People's Jury, a group composed of representatives of professionals, teachers, newsmen, workers, farmers, public servants and industrialists.

The agents to be tried today are Alfredo Ramirez Colar and Jorge Sanchez Duran, who are assigned to Hermosillo but on detached service to Guaymas and Ciudad Obregon, respectively.

In the middle of last year, the special agent of the Office of the Attorney General of Justice, Javier Coello Trejo, initiated an investigation of them because of complaints submitted by Gilberto Almada Gomez (from Guaymas) and Ruben Maldonado, both of whom admitted that they are drug addicts and that they had been detained for investigation by the agents who will be tried today and who had solicited 4,000 pesos from them for their release.

The complainants stated that the agents had not asked them for the money directly. They had used Guaymas city police officer Antonio Ruelas as an intermediary. The latter assisted the Federal Judicial Police agents and is now at large.

The defenants, from the moment of their arrest--when they were questioned and brought face-to-face with their accusers--in August 1976 denied that they had asked for and received this money, asserting that they had always fought the drug traffic at the risk of their lives in the fulfillment of their duties.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

LACK OF APPOINTMENTS STALLS ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 15 Jan 77 p 3-B

[Text] The positions of Federal Judicial Police group chief in the principal towns of the States of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila continue to be vacant and, in view of these circumstances, the anti-drug campaigns are paralyzed.

In the city of Monterrey, both the Coordinator General of the Republic Salvador del Toro Rosales and the chief of Special Services of the Office of the Attorney General in these three states, Humberto Garcia Arizpe, remained in suspense concerning the appointments to be made by Oscar Flores Sanchez to fill the positions of group chief in Nuevo Laredo, Matamoros, Tampico, Torreon, Saltillo and Piedras Negras.

Up to the present time, according to those in a position to know, the only appointment made by the Office of the Attorney General was that of Luis Soto Silva who has been group chief of the Federal Judicial Police in Reynosa, Tamaulipas since last Monday.

With the change of government, all of the chiefs of the Judicial Police in the municipalities of Tamaulipas, Nuevo Leon and Coahuila were recalled to Mexico City to receive new instructions. This action resulted in all of these positions remaining vacant.

EL DIARIO published several opinions yesterday to the effect that the Attorney General's office should resolve the problem--and now--of who the group chiefs are to be. Any delays in the appointments will result in a resurgence of drug trafficking, and the intensive anti-drug campaign carried out by the previous government will have been in vain.

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MEXICO

FEDERAL JUDICIAL POLICE APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 21 Jan 77 p 3-II

[Text] Four agents and one group chief of the Federal Judicial Police were officially appointed by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic. These appointments were reported by the duty Federal Public Ministry agent, Ricardo de Hoyos Arizpe. Group chief Rodolfo Lopez Herrera will serve as chief of the Surveillance Services of the Federal Judicial Police and will have the following agents under his command: Victor M. Carcova Olvera, Luciano Parada Sanchez, Emiliano Ponce Leal and Alejandro Valverde Lopez.

Lopez Herrera told EL MANANA that he had previously been group chief with the same organization in Chihuahua where he had remained 6 months during which time he had achieved magnificent results.

The newly named and dynamic chief of the Federal Judicial Police on this border said that he had been working for the same organization for approximately 11 years in various states of the Mexican Republic.

"There's no point in talking about the past. We hope rather to do a good job from today on at this border," said Lopez Herrera who is of a mind to combat the illicit drug traffic with blood and fire.

Peral Orea To Be Commander

Ricardo de Hoyos Arizpe also reported that there will be only one group chief on this border and this post will be under the orders of Maj Alberto Francisco Peral Orea who will direct the activities of this organization in the United States of Nuevo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas, with headquarters in Monterrey.

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MEXICO

NEW CUSTOMS CHIEF APPOINTED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 20 Jan 77 p 1-B

[Text] Today, Majors Felipe Garcia Segovia and Angel Derlin Gutierrez Salinas will simultaneously assume their posts as Chief of the Customs Inspection Office and Second Commander, respectively, according to an announcement made yesterday by the Customs Administrator, Manuel Adame Garza.

This official, after making these announcements, said that pursuant to orders issued by the Directorate General of Customs, effective this date Maj Francisco Gonzalez Aragon and Oscar Guerra Cavazos will step down as First and Second Commander of the Customs Inspection Office, respectively. These men will be reassigned, the former to Mexico City and the latter to a position in the internal plant of the Border Customs Office.

Adame Garza said that the assumption of their posts by the new commanders of the Customs Inspection Office will take place early tomorrow morning and that the office is awaiting the arrival of the new personnel.

When speaking of the two men who will today assume responsibility for the Customs Inspection Office, the Customs chief said that Maj Garcia Segovia is an oldtime customs man with vast experience which will offer a broad guarantee to the national treasury.

He said that Garcia Segovia had held various positions in the Customs service, the last of which was chief of the Customs Inspection Office on the border in Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila.

Concerning the career of the Second Commander Gutierrez Salinas, it was learned that several weeks ago he was the supervisor of the Federal Registry of Automobiles. He was one of those who a little over 2 years ago started the Pilot Supervisory Plan which subsequently was implemented nationally by the Federal Registry of Automobiles.

For his part, Maj Francisco Gonzalez Aragon stated that "I don't know what position I will be given by my superiors. The only thing I know is that I will remain at the disposition of the Directorate."

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MEXICO

ARMS SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED

Vazquez Cantu: Those in Center of Republic Responsible

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 16 Jan 77 p 1-B

[Text] After stating that "it is not the unemployed border residents who are engaged in firearms trafficking, as asserted in Mexico by the Secretary of National Defense Felix Galvan." The president of the National Chamber of Commerce Jose Luis Vazquez Cantu said that "it is rather those who live in the center of the Republic who engage in this illicit activity."

Vazquez Cantu, responding to questions posed by EL MANANA, stated that "on the basis of the few who may be engaged in arms trafficking on the border it would be risky to say that all of the unemployed are engaged in this illicit activity."

This Nuevo Laredo leader of organized business, expanding on his points of view in connection with statements by the Secretary of National Defense, said that "the actions of the customs authorities confirm my remarks when they detect arms smuggling, in that the owners of the guns are always residents of cities in the central and southern parts of the country and are almost never residents of the border regions."

"I am aware," he said, "that in Nuevo Laredo there may be some persons who are engaging in this kind of activity; however, the great majority of persons who are out of work are honest and hard-working people who commit no other crime than being unemployed."

Arms Smuggling Said To Be Insignificant

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 19 Jan 77 p 1-B

[Text] After stating that arms smuggling through Nuevo Laredo is insignificant, the Trial Section of the Border Customs Office provided figures to

support its claim, indicating that during the year that has just ended, the Customs Office had confiscated 150 firearms and 14,302 cartridges from 26 persons who attempted to bring them into the country illegally by various means.

Jacinto Cantu Vela, chief of this office, after making the above statement, said that these figures reveal in bold strokes the small amount of contraband arms recorded on this border in 1976.

Cantu Vela added that "we are in a position to state that 70 percent of the 26 persons arrested in possession of firearms and cartridges hidden in vehicles they were driving are nationals of foreign countries while the rest, that is 30 percent, are residents of Mexico, D.F., Jalisco, the state of Mexico and Michoacan, as shown by the files which we have in our hands."

The chief of the Trial Section also said that the largest amount of contraband detected by the Customs Office in its area of competence were 22 pistols, while the rest of the known cases invariably were two or three firearms per person.

He stated that the most popular method used by foreigners who attempt to bring firearms into the country from abroad on a small scale is hiding them in the most unbelievable places in the automobiles which they are driving. This makes it more difficult for the Customs Inspection Office to detect them.

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MEXICO

DRUG TRAFFICKERS TO BE ARRAIGNED IN COAHUILA

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 15 Jan 77 p 8-A

[Text] According to information made available to EL DIARIO, the following persons will be arraigned today in the Coahuila District Court: Jose Luis Hinojosa Salinas, Victor Manuel Flores Guajardo, Ricardo Gonzalez Montes and Celso Cantu Chapa, who were arrested here by Federal Judicial Police agents Carlos Araiza San Vicente and Julio Reyes Loera after they had passed a considerable part of a shipment of more than 2 tons of marihuana [to the northern neighboring country] in special boats.

Apparently this is not the first activity connected with marihuana in which the drug traffickers engaged and which could not be detected by the previous agents of the Federal Judicial Police who were removed for their lack of action against federal crimes in this border port.

In the Federal Public Ministry secrecy is still being maintained concerning the investigations being conducted. Nevertheless, the Guadalajara, Jalisco authorities appear to have been exhorted to arrest the suppliers of the large shipment of marihuana confiscated by the Federal Judicial Police.

EL DIARIO was not informed officially of any arrest made in connection with these events. Nevertheless, it is possible that in the next few hours additional arrests will be made of persons connected directly or indirectly with drug trafficking both on this border and in the neighboring cities of San Antonio and Eagle Pass, Texas.

The prisoners possibly will make preliminary statements this very day before the authorities of the Coahuila District Court, this newspaper was told.

Here, the continuing arrests of drug traffickers has caused serious alarm among the population which has observed how since last year our border has

continued to be a vast field of operations for gangs of drug traffickers who took refuge here because of the ineptitude of those who used to serve as Federal Judicial Police agents in this city.

Officially, apart from the arrests made here, no others reportedly took place in Eagle Pass, San Antonio and Austin, Texas. However, it is quite possible that arrests could be made, particularly in the State of Jalisco, the point of origin of the shipment of marihuana which was partially confiscated here and the rest in the state of Texas, U.S.A.

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MEXICO

NEW COMMANDER OF MATAMOROS GARRISON APPOINTED

Brig Gen Sanchez Roca Designated by SND

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 16 Jan 77 p 2-B

[Text] Brig Gen Manuel Sanchez Rocha will assume the post of Commander of the Plaza Garrison today, having been appointed to that position by the Secretariat of National Defense.

The officers [of the Command] will assemble today at 1000 hours in the offices of the Plaza Garrison to present themselves to Brig Gen Manuel Sanchez Rocha.

Brig Gen Sanchez Rocha, who replaces Brig Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros, had an important position in the Secretariat of National Defense in Mexico City.

Brig Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros has been in command of the Plaza Garrison since October 1976, having come here to replace Gen Carlos Gaytan Duron.

In December, Gen Lopez Matamoros, at the orders of the Secretariat of National Defense, was transferred to the city of Nuevo Laredo to assume the post of commander of that city.

The position of commander has been filled on an interim basis by Lt Col Jorge O. de la Fuente Ornelas, in the absence of the titular.

Brig Gen Manuel Sanchez Rocha was accompanied by a representative of the 8th military Region who will invest him during a solemn ceremony and will present him to the corps of officers.

Sanchez Roca: Arms Smuggling No Danger to Mexico

Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 17 Jan 77 p 1-B

[Text] Brig Gen Manuel Sanchez Rocha, who yesterday assumed command of the Plaza Garrison in this city, does not consider the considerable arms

smuggling from the United States to this country to be a danger to the tranquility of the national life of Mexico.

The considerable smuggling of high-powered firearms, revealed by several U.S. Senators when they presented their report to the Treasury Subcommittee on Narcotics and Firearms does not disquiet the country, according to the Commander of the Plaza Garrison.

Brig Gen Manuel Sanchez Rocha, when interviewed by EL BRAVO after assuming command of the Plaza Garrison, said "that arms smuggling from the United States to Mexico has always existed and does not threaten the peace of Mexico."

He stated that these arms are brought into the country illegally as they always have been and these are the firearms which the army confiscates in its permanent anti-gun running campaign.

Brig Gen Manuel Sanchez Rocha was appointed Commander of the Plaza Garrison of this city by the Secretary of National Defense in replacement of Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros.

Brig Gen Ulises Eurosa, Commander of the Glaza Garrison of Renosa, representing the 8th Military Region, officially invested Brig Gen Manuel Sanchez Rocha and presented him to the corps of officers.

The new commander of the Plaza Garrison said that he would familiarize himself with the offices of his command so that he could prepare a work program of benefit to the entire organization.

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MEXICO

TONS OF MARIHUANA BURNED AT MILITARY CAMP

Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 15 Jan 77 p 1-B

[Text] Some 4 1/2 tons of marihuana were burned at the Macario Zamora military camp in the presence of judicial and police authorities, while the destruction of several kilos of cocaine and heroin was postponed to a later date.

The ceremony which was scheduled for 1100 hours was delayed until almost 1700 hours yesterday, as marihuana in the hands of federal prosecutors Jaime Eugenio Torres and Ricardo de Hoyos Arizpe had not yet been brought to the military camp because it was evidence in cases which have not yet been completely heard.

After weighing and verifying the amount of marihuana involved in each case, the Federal Public Ministry agency officials sent some 1 1/2 tons of marihuana to the military camp.

The drug which was destroyed was taken from cases resulting from the confiscation of a truck loaded with 3 tons of marihuana seized by Heliodoro Valencia Gama at a ranch near Miguel Aleman during a federal "raid" conducted last year.

Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros, Commander of the Plaza Garrison, tossed the purifying torch onto the marihuana.

Dr Eduardo Takasita Elizondo, as chief of the Secretariat of Health and Social Welfare of this city, also witnessed the burning of the marihuana.



Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros was the official charged with lighting the gigantic bonfire in which more than 4 1/2 tons of marihuana were burned. The marihuana was obtained from several drug trafficking cases being heard in the District Courts. (Photos by Quiroz)



Troops of the national army loaded trucks with marihuana which was transported to the Macario Zamora military camp for burning, in the presence of civilian and military authorities.

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CSO: 5330

MEXICO

HEROIN BUST, MARIHUANA AND POPPY FIELDS DESTROYED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Jan 77 p 25-A

[Text] Four attractive women who tried to introduce 10 kilos of heroin into the United States through Mexicali, with a market value of 30 million pesos, were captured yesterday by agents of the Attorney General's office in Culiacan, Sinaloa.

The young ladies were apprehended when they boarded a Pacific Railroad train in the Sinaloa capital.

They are Sofia and Ana Esparza Lopez, sisters, Maria de los Angeles Lugo and Guadalupe Quintero Ortiz, of the State of Sinaloa.

The federal agents indicated that female members of the local police force had searched the suspects and found the drug attached to their legs. Each one was carrying 2.5 kilos of pure cocaine.

The Esparza Lopez sisters have criminal records and, according to the police, they were being investigated for possession and use of narcotics.

They said that at the railroad station yesterday it was noticed that the four young women were nervous and their actions made them suspicious.

In addition, they pointed out that the Esparza Lopez sisters had been engaged in transporting drugs to the northwestern border of the country for over a year.

Upon interrogation, they denied possessing the drugs, but they were transferred to the Federal Public Ministry office, where female personnel searched them.

They carried the narcotics attached to their legs in polyethylene bags.

The Esparza Lopez sisters told the Federal Public Ministry that this was their second trip to the border to take narcotics to the neighboring country.

Maria de los Angeles and Guadalupe said this was the first trip they had made with narcotics.

The Federal Judicial Police have started an investigation from information furnished by the traffickers to uncover the leaders of a possible ring smuggling drugs to the U. S.

The 10 kilos of heroin remained in the custody of the Federal Public Ministry, which originally opened the investigation.

Marihuana Plantations in Yautepec, Oaxaca

Members of the Judicial Police have discovered two marihuana plantations in El Camaron, municipality of San Carlos, Yautepec, Oaxaca.

These fields contained 40 kilos of the weed.

The federal agents have not made any arrests but have opened the customary investigation.

The marihuana was placed in the custody of the Federal Public Ministry in Oaxaca.

The Attorney General indicated yesterday that the campaign against the planting, cultivation and harvesting of poppy and marihuana was continuing throughout the country.

He stated that in the last 4 days agents of the Federal Judicial Police had located and destroyed 598 poppy fields, with 14,156,000 plants, and 217 marihuana fields, with 15,349,000 plants.

It was indicated that the campaign has been most intensive in the states of Sinaloa, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guerrero and Oaxaca.

With respect to Sinaloa, in the central region and northwest of Cosala, as well as in Rancho Jacota, municipality of Mazatlan, the agents located 472 poppy fields and 178 of marihuana.

In Michoacan 10 poppy fields and 1 of marihuana were found. The narcotic crops were found in settlements of the municipality of Tumbiscatio and Chemicuila.

In Guerrero the federal agents destroyed 80 poppy fields in the villages of Los Organos and El Durazno, municipality of Ajuchitlan.

And in Oaxaca the campaign against the cultivation of poppy and marihuana spread to Juchitan and Puerto Escondido.

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MEXICO

DEFENSE SECRETARY: INCREASED ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGN

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Jan 77 p 19-A, 21-A

[Text] Acapulco, Guerrero, 11 Jan--The Secretary of Defense Gen Felix Galvan Lopez, during his visit to this city, promised to intensify the campaign against narcotics traffic until such illegal activity, which endangers the health of the Mexican people, is eliminated.

During his stay he visited the various battalions stationed in the Guerrero area and spoke with visitors and residents to learn their opinions respecting the military roadblocks along the highways, concluding that the majority of the persons he interviewed were in agreement that this type of vigilance should be maintained.

The above was revealed by the commander of the 27th Military Zone, Gen Salvador Rangel Medina, who added that the Secretary of Defense was in El Porvenir, deep in the mountains of Guerrero, in order to give instructions to the troops that, apart from their guard duties, they should cooperate in social work. This place was the focal point of the guerrilla fighting headed by Lucio Cabanas Barrientos.

Gen Rangel Medina added that when Gen Galvan Lopez was in the village of Zacatula, on the Zihuantanejo-Lazaro Cardenas road, he witnessed the arrest of two narcotics traffickers at one of the military roadblocks who had 14 kilos of marihuana in their automobile.

The head of the military zone declared that on instruction of his superior precautions will be redoubled, including the burning of poppy and marihuana fields, and an effort made to create a consciousness among the peasants to dedicate themselves to growing crops for public consumption and not those weeds that endanger the health of the Mexican people.

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MEXICO

DRUG RELATED KILLINGS IN CULIACAN

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 11 Jan 77 p 9

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 10 Jan. - The establishment of 14 police stations was begun yesterday in this city and the mayor, Fortunato Alvarez Castro, affirmed that the 6 homicides recorded in the first 10 days of the year in Culiacan and the municipality were related to narcotics traffic.

In a press conference the municipal chief, Alvarez Castro, revealed the extent to which violence had spread in the state capital and the rest of the municipality the first 10 days of the year.

Six murders, 5 injured by firearms, 5 wounded with blades, 3 by physical attack, 32 automobile accidents and 14 lesser injuries, ranging from burns to a person bitten by a dog, was the toll.

With the director of public security of Culiacan, Francisco Quiroga Ramos, at his side, Fortunato Alvarez Castro disclosed that the murder of Ramon Guadalupe Garcia, 23, who was struck down at Leyva Solano Boulevard and Progreso Street, was related to narcotics traffic; that he was not intercepted while passing through Culiacan, since he had been in the city two days; and that it was possible narcotics traffickers had shot him dead. He came from Tijuana. He also affirmed that the woman riddled with three bullets at the desk of the La Ribera Hotel was staying at that establishment along with another woman, who presumably fled with the same person who killed Ester Aispuro Perez. This young lady also came from Tijuana.

The mayor reported on two other homicides, one in Las Juntas de San Ignacio, the other in the union hall of Tepuche, where Bernardo Quinto Beltran and Concepcion Verduzco, alias "Chon V," were riddled with shots.

He also reported that presumably the kidnapping of Ester Alejandra Aispuro occurred in the Los Burgos ranch and that she was murdered for reasons of narcotics traffic, since the perpetrators avenged themselves on the defenseless victim by riddling her with no less than 20 shots.

The most recent crime , the one in Tierra Blanca, in which Victor Manuel Serrano Sanchez was riddled in front of his wife, is being investigated and it is believed that it too is related to revenge by a narcotics trafficker.

This person had been residing in Culiacan for 10 days and had come from Nogales , Sonora.

Fortunato Alvarez Castro openly defended the inhabitants of Culiacan by saying that analysis of these bloody crimes showed that none of the victims was a permanent resident of this city.

In wholeheartedly defending the citizens of Culiacan, Mayor Alvarez Castro stated that he personally knew that of the 45 persons arrested for breaking the police and good government edict during the 48 hours of New Year's, none was a permanent resident of Culiacan and the majority came from Chihuahua , Badiraguato, Durango and Altos de Culiacan.

In declaring to the authorities their origin and occupation , none of these 45 suspects could claim a permanent occupation and those who said they were farmers were not registered with the Farmers Association or with the League of Farm Communities.

Alvarez Castro revealed that he will meet with the reporters every Monday to provide them with the weekly report , so that public opinion may be informed about what really is happening and who are the ones responsible for violence.

He regretted that Culiacan had been made the center of operations of this nature, which damage the leading city of Sinaloa, but he reiterated that it is precisely the establishment of the new police stations that will serve to tighten vigilance, as the municipal police will be assisted by the traffic police, the State Judicial Police, the Federal Judicial authorities and the Army.

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MEXICO

DRUGS INCINERATED IN CULIACAN

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 11 Jan 77 p 10

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 10 Jan--Samuel Alba Leyva, Deputy Attorney General, will arrive in Culiacan today to preside over the ceremony in which 200 million pesos worth of drugs will be incinerated on the military parade ground.

This was made known yesterday by Carlos Aguilar Garza, regional coordinator of the continuing struggle against drugs, who pointed out that because of its volume and quantity this will be the largest amount of narcotics destroyed at one time in Mexico.

Alba Leyva, who will arrive at 1700 hours, in representation of Oscar Flores Sanchez, Attorney General, will be accompanied by other officials of the department.

The burning of drugs will take place at 1800 hours and the governor, Alfonso G. Calderon, General Ricardo Cervantes Garcia Rojas, commandant of the Ninth Military Zone, Carlos Aguilar Garza and other coordinating and Federal Public Ministry personnel, as well as other functionaries, will be present.

The list of drugs to be consumed by fire is the following: marihuana 18 tons, 381 kilos, of which more than 15 tons are packaged and the rest loose; opium gum, 104 kilos, 88 grams; heroin, 89 kilos, 654 grams; cocaine, 32 kilos, 685 grams; hashish, 56 kilos, 470 grams; brown powder, 34 kilos, 485 grams; white powder, 1 kilo, 545 grams; novocaine, 30 kilos, 420 grams; chloride of ammonia, 3 kilos; tetracaine, 0.002 grams; marihuana seed, 460.5 kilos and poppy seed, 17.972 kilos.

Of the above, more than 7 tons of marihuana belong to the seizure made in Santiago de los Caballeros, Baldiraguato, by soldiers of the 68th Infantry Battalion, who also collected 385 kilos of marihuana seeds and 16 kilos, 800 grams, of poppy.

The rest of the drugs were confiscated in actions carried out by the Federal Judicial Police and army personnel, principally in the municipalities of the central region of Sinaloa.

It should be pointed out that the price of a kilo of cocaine, heroin, hashish and a ton of marihuana in the black market is 1 million pesos. Thus, the 32 kilos of cocaine, the 89 of heroin, 56 of hashish, the 104 of opium gum and the 18 tons of marihuana easily reach the 200 million pesos total.

The headquarters of the Coordinated Services of Health and Welfare in the state, which has custody of the drugs, gave its approval for the incineration, as long as they cannot be used for medicinal purposes.

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MEXICO

YOUTH ADDICTION INCREASES IN SINALOA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 8 Jan 77 p 15-A

[Text] Mocorito, Sinaloa, 7 Jan--Celia Perez Gutierrez, controversial delegate of the Minors Protective Council in this municipality since 1963, said that addiction to drugs and enervating substances among Mocorito youth had increased considerably during the last two years, owing principally to the proliferation of places where marihuana cigarettes and drugs are sold.

The delegate of the Protective Council, who is not recognized by the present mayor, indicated that at least 300 youths in this municipal center of 5,000 inhabitants were addicted to marihuana.

"If it is taken into account," she added, "that in the three elementary schools there is an enrollment of 1,500 pupils and 480 in the high school, the gravity of the problem can readily be deduced."

Perez Gutierrez complained that "police authorities show real indifference and apathy toward investigating crimes related to narcotics trafficking and addiction to drugs."

She affirmed that in May of last year a 16-year old youth of Los Mochis died on the riverbank on the outskirts of the village the victim of an overdose of heroin, while his brother was only saved after emergency attention.

"It caused me indignation and great sorrow," said the teacher, "that two drunken policemen supposedly were guarding the one who was found alive, still unconscious from the drugs on the sofa of the police station, while the corpse of his brother was thrown on the floor of a room. The police took off his shirt to cover his face."

The delegate of the Protective Council added that she was never able to learn whether an investigation was made of the case in which the youth died.

"And this is also the situation," she said, "with the majority of cases that occur. As soon as the police consider that narcotics traffickers are involved, they file away the charges."

Our interview attributed the increase in drug abuse in the last 2 years to the fact that the number of traffickers of marihuana and heroin has increased proportionately.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

COERCION OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS IN CULIACAN

Attorney General Observes Drug Incineration

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 13 Jan 77 p 24-A

[Text] Representatives of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic in Culiacan, Sinaloa and other civil, military and federal authorities witnessed yesterday the incineration of 30 million pesos worth of drugs.

The incineration of the drugs took place in the yards of the quarters of the Ninth Military Zone.

The following drugs were incinerated: 89 kilos of heroin, 33 kilos of cocaine, 105 kilos of opium gum, 19 tons of loose and packaged marihuana, 59 kilos of hashish, 22 kilos of poppy seeds, 642 kilos of marihuana, 109 kilos of morphine, 31 kilos of novocaine, 2 grams of tetracaine, 3 kilos of ammonium chloride, 76 tablets of psychotropics, 34.5 kilos of heroin cutting powder, 15 kilos 310 grams of cocaine cutting powder.

Intense Campaign Against 'Drugs Industry' Pledged

Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 13 Jan 77 p 2

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, 12 Jan--The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic is using 53 million pesos for additional personnel and equipment in an intense campaign to wipe out completely planting, processing and marketing of drugs in the states of Chihuahua, Durango and Sinaloa.

Samuel Alba Leyva, deputy attorney general of the republic, made this announcement shortly after witnessing the incineration of drugs worth 400 million pesos on the black market which took place in the yard of the Ninth Military Zone with headquarters in this capital. He said that a large quantity of drugs had been consigned in Mazatlan, Los Mochis and Guamuchil.

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CSO: 5300

DRUGS AND PROCESSING EQUIPMENT SEIZED

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 22 Jan 77 p 10-A

[Article by Raul Calvillo de Luna]

[Text] In 4 blows dealt to drug traffic in as many cities, Federal Judicial Police [PJF] agents succeeded in arresting 13 alleged criminals and seizing approximately 10 million pesos worth of drugs, equipment for processing heroin, 2 pistols and a rifle.

Francisco Castro Iturrios and Blanca Castro Perez were arrested upon boarding a Pacific Railroad train. They had 250 grams of heroin in their possession, which they hoped to sell in Nogales, Sonora. Moments later Cruz Velazquez and Nicolas Ramirez Neri were arrested. They were relieved of 2 precision scales, an electric grill, 2 washbasins and substances in various bottles, as well as 3 kilos of heroin and 3 firearms.

In addition, an abandoned automobile was found at a place called "La Rumorosa" on the Mexicali-Tijuana highway in Baja California; the car was carrying 118 kilos of marihuana in its trunk.

Meanwhile, in Agua Prieta, Sonora federal agents of the Attorney General's office arrested Eugenio Tabixon Lopez and Javier Marley Barrios who were in possession of 341 packets of marihuana which they were selling at a house located at 1560 Avenida Quince in that frontier city.

Finally, in Ciudad Obregon PJF agents found 1,155 kilos of marihuana in a truck and automobile belonging to alleged drug traffickers Gonzalo Meza Gastelum, Humberto Robles Lopez, Ramon Reyna Nunez, Jose Flores Gasca, Gaston Traconi Serrano, Ramon Bejarano Viesca and Rigoberto Morales. The arrested traffickers declared that they were taking the narcotic to the northwest frontier to be sold.

In all instances, those alleged to be responsible for crimes against health were handed over to the appropriate Federal Public Ministry agents who sent them to the respective district judge for prosecution.

At the express order of Oscar Flores Sanchez, attorney general of the republic, General Raul Mendiola Cerecero, head of the PJF, issued specific instructions for investigations to be continued in all instances so as to crush the drug trafficking gangs completely.

MEXICO

HEAVY SEIZURES IN THREE BORDER CITIES

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 29 Jan 77 p 10-A

[Text] Another blow was dealt by Federal Judicial Police [PJF] agents to drug traffic in 3 cases resolved in frontier cities: 660 grams of heroin and 3-1/4 tons of marihuana were seized, the total valued at more than 5 million pesos on the black market. Eleven persons were arrested.

The arrests were made at the hotel "Cuartos Los Plomos" in which PJF agents surprised Rogelio Cabello, Juan Vazquez Sanchez, Lauro Medina Gallegos and Roberto Flores Aguilar with 450 grams of heroin in their possession. That hotel is located in Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas.

Meanwhile, PJF agents operating in Nogales, Sonora succeeded in arresting Eduardo Esquer Alvarado, Abel Maya India, Jesus Manuel Barnett Valenzuela, Eduardo Moreno Medina and Leonardo Naranja Sepulveda, who had a marihuana warehouse containing 3-1/4 tons of that plant.

In Tijuana, Baja California PJF agents arrested Pablo Huerta Chavira and Efren Orlos Beltran, who had in their possession 210 grams of heroin, instruments for drug injection and measuring devices for the sale of narcotics.

All those allegedly responsible for crimes against health were handed over to the representative of the Ministry of Public Health for the three above-mentioned cities; once the inquiry is completed, they will be turned over to the court of their respective district.

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CSO: 5300

MEXICO

WARDEN BLAMED FOR TRAFFICKERS ESCAPE

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Jan 77 p 27-A

[Article by Carlos Estrada Charles]

[Text] Tijuana, 21 Jan--Jesus Medina Fuentes, warden of the state penitentiary, was remanded to the first district judge today as allegedly responsible for the escape of drug trafficker Cesar Nungaray Garibaldy, who had been admitted to the Santa Fe hospital for a kidney ailment.

Federal Judicial Police [PJF] agents appeared today at the penitentiary office to arrest Warden Medina Fuentes, since it is presumed that the drug trafficker gave him \$20,000 to obtain his freedom.

According to information from Jose Vargas Cabrera, Public Ministry agent, the warden--without the district judge's authorization--released the criminal from La Mesa prison this past December in order to have him admitted to the Santa Fe Clinic, but the criminal was removed from the clinic upon orders from the Federal Court.

Later, Jesus Medina Fuentes, supported by the opinion of the prison doctor, again obtained the prisoner's admittance to the clinic, where he was guarded by a municipal police officer. The prisoner eluded the guard and easily jumped through a window making good his escape early yesterday morning.

Cesar Nungaray Garibaldy is on the Most Wanted list in the United States, since he also escaped from a federal prison in that neighboring country, where he was serving a sentence of 29 years.

It was further revealed that Nungaray Garibaldy is considered to be one of the main leaders of an international drug traffic gang and that in May of last year he was arrested by PJF agents with 18 kilos of cocaine, heroin and morphine in his possession.

Jesus Medina Fuentes, warden of the penitentiary, 45 years old, was commander of Tijuana's city police and held various positions in the state police.

8568

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

SEIZURE OF 8.7 KILOS OF HEROIN

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 28 Jan 77 p 4

/Article by A. Lamas/

/Text/ "Yesterday, Pablo Ernesto Avila Triana, the Federal Public Prosecutor deputy agent, informed DIARIO DE NOGALES that Sotero Ayala Tirado confessed during a long and exhaustive interrogation that he is a drug trafficker. Last Tuesday, the Federal Judicial Police in Nogales arrested him at the corner of Rey and Independencia streets with 8.703 kilos of heroin in his possession."

Avila Triana said that during the interrogation which lasted 20 hours, Ayala Tirado at first denied that he was a heroin trafficker but after persistent questioning he confessed his long history.

At first, Ayala Tirado told Avila Triana that this was the first time that he traded heroin and that he "could not find out what to do with it."

After an intense and prolonged interrogation, Ayala Tirado confessed that during a considerable period of time he worked for people in Sinaloa but more than a year ago he went to work on his own and made "deals."

He added that he began drug trafficking, continuously traveling to the mountainous regions of Sinaloa and Durango where he bought raw opium at a low price and took it for processing to Culiacan. The heroin he obtained was transported by different means and exported to Tucson and Phoenix where he had two important "contacts."

He added that in the single year he worked "by himself," without accomplices, in the company only of some members of his family, the profits may have totaled 15 million pesos since he exported more than 15 kilos of the moral drug.

The Mexican telephone company confirmed that according to their records the drug trafficker made hundreds of calls, not only to Sinaloa but also to Guerrero, Phoenix and Tucson.

He also said that his bank account is moderate because he "put other money to work," so that nobody would suspect his prosperity. However, on the afternoon of his arrest one of his children sent to another child in Culiacan 131,000 pesos, which indicates the size of his gains from the sale of drugs. The interrogation is still going on today. Tomorrow Sotero Ayala Tirado and his accomplices will be turned over to the courts.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

FOUR TONS OF MARIHUANA SEIZED

Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 28 Jan 77 p 4

[Text] A major blow to drug trafficking was dealt by the Federal Judicial Police led by Hector Arturo Rojas Diaz, the commander and group chief, and the Federal Highway Police of Nogales, under Maj Fernando Ramirez. About 4 tons of marihuana, valued at 11 million pesos, were confiscated and 5 drug traffickers were arrested. This is one of the largest seizures in recent years at this frontier.

Four days ago, the Federal Highway Police and the Federal Judicial Police found out from an informer that several tons of marihuana were in Nogales. The agents were assigned to search for the grass in different sectors of the city. Yesterday morning, they found it in the rear of an empty house in the Pueblo Nuevo settlement.

By digging with picks and shovels in the back of a house, they found a steel door in the ground. When they opened the door, they saw 4,000 1-kilo packages of hashish. The surface of the hole was 4 square meters with a depth of 1.9 meters.

Investigations made yesterday morning also revealed that the house belonged to Jesus Barnett Valenzuela, a 28-year old emigrant, a description of whom was also obtained.

Traffickers Captured in Front of the "Iris" Restaurant

Several members of the Federal Judicial Police and the Federal Highway Police continued the investigations and at 1400 hours in front of the "Iris" restaurant on Ochoa Street, they captured the owner of the house, Jesus Barnett Valenzuela, and Eduardo Esquer Alvarado, 35-years old, resident of 79 Educacion Street of this city. Barnett Valenzuela owns the drugs and Esquer Alvarado was his accomplice.

The surveillance of the restaurant was continued. Abel Maya Inda, 30-years old, a resident of this frontier, Leonardo Naranjo, 31-years old, and Eduardo Moreno, a 23-year old emigrant living in Nogales, Arizona at Preston Mobile Home No. 219, arrived at the same restaurant. Yesterday afternoon, for their

testimony, they were placed at the disposal of Mireles Malpica, Federal Prosecutor agent, and his deputy Ernesto Avila Triana.

By this means, the Federal Judicial Police, under Maj Hector Arturo Rojas Diaz, are dealing great blows to drug traffickers. This time, they had the collaboration of the Federal Highway Police.

8923

CS0: 5330

MEXICO

CARTOON FROM PIEDRAS NEGRAS



Key:

1. Police Purge
2. Police Headquarters
3. At police headquarters there is no room for rats

8923
CSO: 5330

MEXICO

AMERICAN ACCUSED OF SMUGGLING MARIHUANA

Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Feb 77 p 3-B

/Text/ "Yesterday during a hearing at the District Court, William Melvin, who is accused of crimes against public health under the categories of possession and transport of marihuana, requested a face-to-face meeting with the officers who arrested him. He said that he had no marihuana in his possession when he was arrested."

EL DIARIO was informed that the hearing was held yesterday morning at 1000 hours before an official of the District Court. The American was arrested last year near Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, in a pickup truck by several customs officers at that frontier port.

Melvin told the court authorities that when he was arrested he was not transporting any drugs and requested a face-to-face meeting with the officers who arrested him.



William Melvin, the American whose imprisonment was decreed for the possession and transport of marihuana. At the District Court, he requested a face-to-face meeting with the officers who arrested him. He said that when they arrested him, he was not transporting any drugs. He was arrested last year near Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

GOVERNOR WELCOMES ARMY COMMANDER--Saltillo, Coahuila, 10 Jan. This afternoon state governor Oscar Flores Tapia welcomed the new commander of the 6th Military Region, Gen Gaspar Motta Elizarraras and the senior officers of that command to whom he said that "our watchword, our pathway is to love democracy and respect the law." The new commander Motta Elizzararas told the governor that he and his command would try to be useful with their presence and their social work which, in accordance with the law, would have as standards the Constitution of all the laws. The governor proposed the seeking of a closer bond between the army and all classes of people and said that programs would be designed to permit both the families of civilian officials and those of military personnel to take part in cultural and other kinds of activities. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 11 Jan 77 p 1-A] 8143

OFFICER EXTORTING TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Acapulco, Guerrero, 11 Jan. Capt Juan Garcia Najera, a member of the 53d Infantry Battalion with headquarters in Acapulco, was turned over to the military Public Ministry on a charge of extorting money from traffickers. The commander of the 27th Military Region, Gen Salvador Rangel Medina, said that with this precedent an effort is being made to put an end to the practice of subordinates breaking the law. He said that if there are other complaints about officers or soldiers, the same action will be taken against them. Garcia Najera arrested a number of drug traffickers in 1975 whom he released after the payment of 22,500 pesos. The commander considers this a holdup and a lack of military ethics. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 14 Jan 77 p 4] 8143

ANTI-MARIHUANA FIGHT CONTINUES--Ricardo Zamora Apan has been named as the new Anti-drug Campaign Coordinator. This campaign is being conducted in our state to prevent, insofar as possible, the cultivation and distribution of marihuana which is one of the most abundant drugs in our state. When interviewed, the new Coordinator, who previously served as Federal Public Ministry agent, said that the fight which had been waged up until now against marihuana growers and traffickers will continue. Also to be continued is the system for the destruction of marihuana fields by means of

fumigation with herbicides. The official stated that to carry out this activity effectively, it is necessary to use aircraft such as helicopters and light planes which will be sent to this state by the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic to combat to the utmost all activities connected with drugs. [Text] [Oaxaca de Juarez EL IMPARCIAL in Spanish 15 Jan 77 pp 1, 8] 8143

ARMS TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--Miguel Angel Herrera Diaz, age 34, was sentenced yesterday by 2d District Judge, Luis Garcia Romero, to serve a prison term of 4 years and to pay a fine of 850 pesos for the crime of illegally bringing firearms and ammunition into the country which are destined for the exclusive use of the army. The defendant had been working clandestinely in Chicago, Illinois, for some time and had come here to visit relatives living in the southern part of the country, accompanied by his friend, Lucio Fabela, owner of a 1976 Ford automobile in which they arrived at the Miguel Aleman International Port and checkpoint. When the automobile was inspected, the customs officers found several pistols, rifles and ammunition. When Angel Herrera was arrested he admitted that he had taken advantage of the friendship of his companion Fabela, having borrowed the automobile earlier and filling it with the arms. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 19 Jan 77 p 8-B] 8143

SURVEILLANCE CHIEF NAMED--Corp Reynaldo Hernandez Pedraza was officially appointed yesterday commander in the surveillance service of the Customs Inspection Office of this city. At 1000 hours yesterday, in the office of local Customs Administrator, Manuel Adame Garza, this information was released by the Directorate General of Customs which states that Corp Reynaldo Hernandez Pedraza was promoted to commander. Also present during the appointment as well as the promotion to Corporal of jailer Matias Saenz, were officials of this city, Maj Francisco Gonzalez Aragon and Oscar Guerra Cavazos, customs chief and second commander, respectively. Interviewed on this subject, Maj Oscar Guerra Cavazos said that with the promotion of Commander Reynaldo Hernandez to the position of assistant surveillance chief better surveillance service will be provided and it will be possible to combat smuggling through passes and over the highways. In a related connection, Maj Francisco Gonzalez Aragon said that new Commander Reynaldo Hernandez Pedraza would automatically cease taking part in roll call. He will be under the orders of the Customs Office to perform the delicate task of special surveillance. Reynaldo Hernandez Pedraza had been serving as an official up until today. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 18 Jan 77 p 8-B] 8143

FJP CHANGES--While in Nuevo Laredo there are speculations over the new chief of the Federal Judicial Police, in the city of Monterrey Maj Francisco Peral Orea took over the post of chief of the Federal Judicial Police in the

States of Coahuila, Nuevo Laredo and Tamaulipas. Peral Orea replaces Maj Humberto Garcia Arizpe whom the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic has sent to Culiacan, Sinaloa. Francisco Peral Orea was in Nuevo Laredo from 1972-1973. He was one of the men who came upon the scene at that time with Salvador Toro Rosales to combat drug trafficking. His work was very effective and upon his reassignment to another location in the republic, he was replaced by Maj Heliodoro Valencia Gama, who performed his assigned duties brilliantly. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 20 Jan 77 p 3-B] 8143

REGIONAL ARMY CHIEF NAMED--Col Jose Luis Dominguez Valdez, Mexican infantry, who for more than 3 years served as Chief of the Orders Section of this city's garrison, was appointed by higher authority to the position of Chief of Staff of the 22d Military Region, with headquarters in the city of Toluca, State of Mexico. This information was released yesterday by Brig Gen Salvador Lopez Matamoros, chief of garrison of this city, who added that Col Dominguez Valdez departed from this city yesterday to take up his new post which had been given to him by higher authority. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 19 Jan 77 p 2-B] 8143

TRAFFICKER RECEIVES STAY OF SENTENCE--Jesus Rivera Reyna, who was tried for a crime against public health, succeeded in having the court of Union grant his appeal for a stay of execution of the prison sentence which had been handed down by the presiding judge of the 3d District Court of the State for violation of the public health law, namely heroin trafficking. It was 2d District Judge Luis Garcia Romero who issued the stay of sentence "for lack of evidence that would justify his alleged responsibility..." In November 1976, the Federal Judicial Police arrested Rivera Reyna when he was named by other members of drug dealers who were working for the well-known drug trafficker, Gualberto Urtuzuastegui Acosta and Lorenzo Torres Solis, alias "El Pajaro" [Bird]. In connection with the same trial, the following persons are being held in prison: Jose Antonio Osuna Ruelas, alias "El Conejo" [Rabbit], Jesus Chavarria Velazquez, Juan Quiroz Lopez, alias "La Chumacera," Jesus R. Reyna and Roberto Lara Martinez. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 22 Jan 77 p 3-B] 8143

ADDICTS ARRESTED WITH AMPHETAMINES--Uniformed city police patrol officers arrested David Moreno Diaz and Oscar Reynero in the vice district when they passed these men and found them to be acting suspiciously. The men attempted to escape, and this led to their being searched. The first man had an envelope in his possession containing almost 200 apparently toxic pills. Yesterday the coordinator of the Inspectorate General of Police ordered that David Moreno Diaz and Oscar Reynero be turned over to the Federal Public Ministry Agency for investigation. The police report prepared in

connection with the arrests of these two subjects states that at 0450 hours as two patrolmen were making their rounds in the vice district, they observed that two men were behaving in a suspicious manner and attempting to conceal themselves. This prompted the police officers to intercept them to "check them out." They found an envelope in a plastic bag hidden in the underclothing of David Moreno containing a total of 195 apparently toxic pills. Both appeared to be under the influence of a toxic drug. They were taken to police headquarters and later to the offices of the Federal Judicial Police where they were being carefully investigated yesterday to determine the source of the amphetamines they were carrying. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 21 Jan 77 p 3-B] 8143

CAPTURE OF DRUG TRAFFICKERS--Miguel Aleman, Tamaulipas--Tuesday afternoon Federal Judicial Police agents captured four drug traffickers during a raid in the village of Los Angeles in this municipality. Federal agents detached in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, made the raid. They arrived at this port and went on to the village of Los Angeles where they arrested Manuel Martinez, alias "El Burro" and three other unidentified persons who were immediately taken to Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, where they were wanted by a federal court since they were mentioned in records of a case against known drug traffickers for crimes against public health. The drug traffickers who were captured evidently did not know that they were wanted by the police since they were captured without resisting. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Jan 77 p 2-B] 8923

CIUDAD ACUNA CUSTOMS GUARD COMMANDER--Commander Ruben Rodriguez de Hoyos yesterday took over the command of the Ciudad Acuna Customs guards. He has served customs for more than 25 years. [Excerpt] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Jan 77 p 8-B] 8923

IMPRISONMENT OF GANG OF HEROIN TRAFFICKERS--Enlarging on Proceedings No 198-976 at the Third District Court against Raul Salinas Capetillo, alias "El Capeto", the latter's imprisonment was decreed yesterday for crimes against public health under the category of illegal exportation of heroin. Salinas Capetillo was the only member of the Cepeda Cabrera brothers gang of drug traffickers who had not yet been captured. In the same proceedings, imprisonment was decreed against drug traffickers Arturo, Antonio and Juan Cepeda Cabrera, alias "Los Coles", Herbert Villagran and Lorenzo Serratos, alias "El Canario". The arrest in Laredo, Texas, of Raul Salinas Capetillo, who was planning to make an operation involving several ounces of heroin, was opportunely reported in this newspaper. During his detailed interrogation by the American authorities, Salinas Capetillo confessed that the drugs were delivered to him by Lorenzo Serratos, alias "El Canario", and that Herbert Villagran was also involved. The latter confessed that the heroin had been delivered to them by Juan Cepeda Cabrera, alias "El Cole", that Villagran had taken it from Monclova, Coahuila, to this frontier and that in this city they delivered it to Arturo and Antonio Cepeda, alias "Los Coles". Monday afternoon during the preparatory hearing before the Third District Court judge, the accused Raul Salinas Capetillo refused to testify. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 3-B] 8923

RICARDO ZOLEZZI CAVAZOS--Although many persons will not be pleased by this, Ricardo Zolezzi Cavazos will return as chief of the Judicial Police group in Matamoros. Thus the joy of his successor Jesus Rodriguez will not last long. [Excerpt] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 3 Feb 77 p 5-B] 8923

DRUG TRAFFICKER RELEASED--Yesterday morning drug trafficker Ernesto Diaz Reyes was released. He had been in the municipal jail since 28 February 1973 for crimes against public health. He was sentenced to 5 years 6 months imprisonment and fined 5,000 pesos. The Crime Prevention and Social Readaptation Court reduced by 641 days the sentence decreed by the Third District Court judge. Drug traffickers Jose Alfredo Martinez and Donato Camargo Goygortua also were tried in Proceedings No 100-73 but they were found not guilty and freed. The three drug traffickers were captured by the Federal Judicial Police who discovered that they dealt primarily with heroin. Several other persons were arrested and tried for crimes against public health. The investigations by federal authorities broke up the aforementioned gang which had operated in the south of the country. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 29 Jan 77 p 3-B] 8923

NUEVO LAREDO CUSTOMS GUARD COMMANDER--We had a friendly chat with the new Nuevo Laredo Customs guard commander, Felipe Garcia Segovia who has "just" 48 years of public service with an impeccable record. He explained some of his plans to improve the efficiency of the customs guards during his visit to our director. His vast experience with customs assures the success of the work of his service since Don Felipe, whose entire career has been with customs, knows every detail of the work. Garcia Segovia is affectionately remembered in Ciudad Reynosa, Ciudad Miguel Aleman and in Ciudad Acuna, Coahuila, where his work was outstandingly efficient and where he was well liked. The new chief of the customs guards requested the collaboration of all of his subordinates so as to accomplish their mission without problems. We wish him success. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 30 Jan 77 p 2-A] 8923

RELEASE OF HEROIN TRAFFICKERS--Damaso Fuentes Garcia and Juan Guerrero Mendoza were released yesterday after being imprisoned in the municipal jail since May 1975 when they were arrested by federal authorities for having in their possession almost 2 tons of marihuana when captured. They were released after the Unitarian Court of the Fourth District with headquarters at Monterrey, Nuevo Laredo, reversed their verdict of guilt decreed on 30 September 1976 by the Second District Court judge by which each of them was sentenced to 9 years 3 months imprisonment and fined 5,628 pesos. The court exonerated them of crimes against health under the category of illegal exportation of marihuana and only confirmed their guilt of carrying and collecting arms with the corresponding sentences, declared already served. So yesterday they were released after they were notified of this decision at the offices of the Second District Court. Pedro Cazares Herrera, Jose Cabrera Grimaldo and Jose Sanchez Serna or Cerda had been included in the same proceedings. The Federal Judicial Police had captured all of them at a ranch near the edge of Rio Bravo River when they were prevented from exporting the marihuana due to the police intervention. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 3-B] 8923

IMPRISONMENT OF THREE HEROIN TRAFFICKERS--In the light of the evidence provided by Federal Public Prosecutor agents against Jose Lauro Medina Gallegos, Roberto Flores Aguilar and Rogelio Cabello, the Second State District Court judge ordered their imprisonment. Roberto Flores Aguilar and Rogelio Cabello were imprisoned for crimes against public health for possession and traffic of heroin and Lauro Medina, in addition to these crimes, for the illegal importation of heroin. Yesterday noon, they were taken to the Federal District Court where they were informed of the decreē. Wednesday of last week, federal authorities captured them while they were together in a room at "Plomos" to sell 450 grams of heroin. The deal was not made because the Federal Judicial Police captured them and took them to the Federal Prosecutor Office where they were placed at the disposal of the Second District Court. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 1 Feb 77 p 3-B] 8923

SEIZURE OF 1.5 TONS OF MARIHUANA--Yesterday the Federal Judicial Police dealt another blow to drug trafficking by seizing 1.5 tons of marihuana and 59 tablets and pills of toxic substances from two known drug traffickers of this city. The marihuana and the pills were stored at a residence in "Los Alamos" development. Arturo Rojas Diaz, the commander of the Federal Judicial Police in this city, told DIARIO DE NOGALES that the seizure and arrests resulted from an investigation made last weekend which succeeded. Commander Rojas Diaz said that yesterday several agents under his command arrested Jose Luis Espinosa Escoto, 22-years old, who was under investigation as a known drug trafficker. During an interrogation, Espinosa Escoto confessed that he was a drug trafficker and that at the house at 54 Mezquite Street of the "Los Alamos" development, he and his "partner" Efren Valenzuela Felix, also 22-years old, had a large amount of the killer weed and toxic tablets and pills. Immediately Federal Judicial Police agents, with the help of members of the National Army, went to Mezquite Street where they found in one of the rooms an enormous amount of marihuana and pills as well as Efren Valenzuela Felix. The latter said he is a signal man at the Ferrocarril del Pacifico railroad and Espinosa Escoto works in a repair shop which belongs to him. Commander Rojas Diaz said that perhaps other arrests will be made in this case. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 1 Feb 77 pp 4, 2] 8923

HEROIN TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Yesterday, Luis Garcia Romero, Second District Court judge, sentenced Jesus Bolanos Lizcano, 25-years old, and Francisco Almanza Perez, a laborer, 22-years old, in the proceedings against them for crimes against public health. Bolanos Lizano, for that crime under the category of possession, traffic and buying and selling heroin, was sentenced to 6 years 8 months imprisonment and fined 5,554.50 pesos. Francisco Almanza, for that crime under the category of traffic and purchase and sale of heroin, was sentenced to 5 years 11 months imprisonment and fined 5,700 pesos. [Bolanos Lizano said] that Francisco Almanza had provided him with a dose of heroin to give himself a fix. Later, Jesus Bolanos, a driver, was arrested. He said that he had taken heroin several times to the U. S. for which he was paid \$900 for each trip by a person called Jose, and that he also sold heroin to Francisco Almanza. With the exception of Cruz Ortiz, the other persons sentenced appealed to the Unitary Court of the Fourth District because they did not agree with the sentence imposed on them. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 31 Jan 77 p 4-B] 8923

AMERICAN ARMS SMUGGLER CAPTURED--Mexico, 31. A few days ago at the Matamoros, Tamaulipas frontier, the Federal Judicial Police seized from the American William Duncan Roberts 20 rifles of several calibers and 5,750 cartridges of different sizes. The prisoner said that he has accomplices in San Luis Potosi, Hidalgo, Puebla and Guerrero. He confessed to Raul Murillo Delgado, Fourth Penal District Court judge, that for 2 years he smuggled arms, electronic equipment, wines and liquors which he sold to well-known persons in those cities. He transported the merchandise in a special compartment in a light truck which he owns. The arms and merchandise seized in his possession were of considerable value. All indications are that the goods he smuggled during the 2 years were worth millions of pesos. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Feb 77 p 1-A] 8923

NEW CUSTOMS ADMINISTRATOR FOR ENSENADA--An unofficial report states that Roberto Garcia Aguirre was appointed by the Secretariat of Finance and Public Credit as Administrator of the Ensenada, Baja California, Customs. He belongs to a well-known and distinguished family of this frontier post. Up to last week, he held a high post at the Tampico, Tamaulipas, Customs. Roberto Garcia Aguirre will take office tomorrow, 1 February, as Administrator of the Ensenada Customs. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 31 Jan 77 p 4-B] 8923

ARMS SMUGGLERS SENTENCED--Armando Gilbert Gilabert was arrested at the customs post at kilometer 22 when he was in a Ford car with a considerable amount of cartridges for firearms of several calibers which were discovered by the customs inspectors and brought to this city. Immediately afterwards, investigations of the case were begun by the Frontier Customs Court which turned over the evidence to the Federal Prosecutor Office where the accused admitted that he was the owner of the cartridges seized in his possession, exonerating his wife who was in his company at the time of his arrest. The defendant Armando Gilbert Gilabert was turned over to the District Court where after the elapse of the constitutional period of 72 hours, Judge Jose Becerra Santiago issued an order for his imprisonment for the crime of violating the Federal Firearms and Explosives Law by illegally bringing firearms into the country. The accused appealed to the Unitary Court of the Eighth Circuit against the order of imprisonment decreed by the judicial authority. Yesterday, Jose Becerra Santiago, the District Court judge, considering that there was enough evidence to prove the guilt of Armando Gilbert Gilabert of the crime of smuggling cartridges into the country, sentenced him to imprisonment for 2 years and fined him 1,000 pesos or 10 additional days imprisonment. By posting 10,000 pesos bail, the accused may be released. The decree issued by the judge was communicated by Enrique Galvan Ortiz, first registrar of the District Court. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 3-A] 8923

MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS SENTENCED--Jose Becerra Santiago, the District Court judge, gave a verdict of guilty of crimes against public health under the categories of possession and transportation of marihuana against Jose Guadalupe Lara Reynoso and Alberto Torres Gonzalez. According to reports received from judicial circles by EL DIARIO, Jose Guadalupe Reynoso and Alberto Torres Gonzalez are imprisoned at Saltillo, Coahuila, since last year when they were arrested by police authorities. The investigations were made in that capital and then turned over to the District Court judge by whom they were officially imprisoned. Reports other than these revealed to this newspaper that as the proceedings continued enough evidence was found to establish the guilt of these men who were sentenced. Jose Guadalupe Lara Reynoso was sentenced to 4 years and 3 months imprisonment and fined 3,000 pesos. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 3-A] 8923

MARIHUANA TABLETS AT DRUG STORE--This is a long list of criminal activities which have taken place recently in the capital of the state of Coahuila, formerly the Mexican "Athens": Robbery at the National Telegraph Administration, robberies at private homes, the holdup-murder of a taxi driver by a minor!... arbitrary conduct of the uniformed police and judicial police agents...drug stores where tablets containing marihuana were sold...(the case of Benavides Pharmacy)...[Excerpt] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 1 Feb 77 p 3-B] 8923

POLICE APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS--The Municipal Police Department will definitely be reorganized. Vicente Rojas, chief of investigations, resigned. The resignation was not received by the former chief of police but was left on the desk of Noel Munoz Pineda, the chief of the two departments. The reorganization of the Department of Police and Traffic is aimed at providing better service, attention and security to the public as demanded by the people of Piedras Negras and Mayor Tomas de los Santos Medina. Noel Munoz Pineda, chief of the Police and Traffic Department, has been very successful in the total reorganization of the municipal investigations department which will have only 8 members assigned to groups, each of which will be headed by a chief. Yesterday, Noel Munoz Pineda announced the appointment of Humberto Garza and Froilan Coyazo as chiefs of the two groups who will work in shifts. Anastacio Navarez Corral and Hector Gutierrez, both agents of the investigations department, resigned. Yesterday, the municipal president congratulated Noel Munoz Pineda, studied and approved every point in the plan of the chief of public security for the reorganization of the departments under his command. The mayor gave a vote of confidence and support for Munoz Pineda's plans and work programs for this year. He informed EL DIARIO, among other things, that the installations for the police department will be provided. It will operate henceforth at Villa de Fuente in its own building with the necessary facilities to provide adequate service to the inhabitants of the city. [Text] [Piedras Negras in Spanish 31 Jan 77 p 1-B] 8923

MARIHUANA DESTROYED IN ZAPOPAN--Guadalajara, 21 Jan--Five tons of marihuana and 20 kilos of poppy were burned this morning in the Ramon Corona quarter of Mojonera, municipality of Zapopan. Among those present at the burning were Agustin Peniche Alvarez, regional coordinator of the campaign against drug traffic for zone 4 comprising the states of Jalisco, Nayarit, Colima and Michoacan, and Adolfo Renteria Agraz, state's attorney. Peniche stated: "We have instructions from Oscar Flores, attorney general of the republic, to make the campaign against drug traffic permanent, and we are doing our best to carry out those instructions. We are counting on the collaboration of all police groups and the army. It may be pointed out that 46 marihuana and poppy crops have been destroyed between 5 January and now. We are negotiating for larger aircraft and ground vehicles in order to carry on our work in a positive manner." He acknowledged that Jalisco ranks fourth in drug traffic, Michoacan third, Guerrero second and Sinaloa first. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Jan 77 p 27-A] 8568

MARIHUANA SEIZURE IN SONORA--Hermosillo, 27 Jan--Heavy-gauge weapons, a supply of ammunition and explosives, as well as 3.5 tons of marihuana, were seized today by Federal Judicial Police [PJF] agents after a number of investigations. In addition, seven individuals were arrested and will be tried for drug trafficking and arms smuggling, according to informed sources. In Nogales PJF agents arrested five persons in possession of 3.5 tons of marihuana which they hoped to smuggle into the United States. The following were arrested: Eduardo Esquer, 35 years of age; Abel Maya India, 30; Jesus Manuel Barnett Valenzuela, 28; Eduardo Moreno Medina, 23; and Leonardo Naranjo Sepulveda, 30. All were captured in Esquer's home where the marihuana was hidden. Agents later arrested Bartolo Soyo who had gone to Hermosillo intending to sell 150 kilos of marihuana. Upon questioning, he denounced Eugenio Barraza as an arms smuggler. PJF agents searched Barraza's house and seized weapons of various calibers, a 45 caliber machine gun, a Winchester rifle, a light army magazine rifle, various explosives, cartridge magazines and telescopic sights. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Jan 77 p 27-A] 8568

TRAFFICKERS TO STUDENTS ARRESTED--Guadalajara, 28 Jan--Two drug traffickers delivering cocaine, marihuana and drug pills to various university and private college students were arrested by PJF agents last evening in the "Park" movie house. Those arrested were: Ignacio Sanchez, alias "el Yaqui," and Jose Luis Rodriguez. Their sphere of activity was the schools where they first gave away the drugs without charge and later sold them. They revealed the existence of a broad network of drug traffickers in Mexico but said they knew the suppliers of the merchandise only by code names. Sanchez and Jimenez spent 3 years in this activity and sold marihuana cigarettes at 20 or 30 pesos, Mandrax pills at 15 pesos and packets of cocaine at 300 to 500 pesos each. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 29 Jan 77 p 27-A] 8568

ALFALFA SOLD AS MARIHUANA--The Federal Judicial Police seized three Mexicans as they were selling what was supposed to be a shipment of marihuana to an American. Most of the shipment was in reality alfalfa. The federal agents arrested Ramon Garcia Casas, Jose Jauregui Juarez and Antonio Juarez in the outskirts of the city of Nogales, Sonora, as they were making delivery of the shipment to American Martin Coleman. The Mexicans were selling 200 kilos of marihuana, 163 kilos of which were alfalfa. All of the material was already pressed into 1-kilo "bricks." The most surprised person was the American, not because of the presence of the federal police but because he had closed the deal after having smoked several alfalfa cigarettes which he considered of "good quality." [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Feb 77 p 25-A] 8143

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED IN TIJUANA--In the last 25 days, the Federal Judicial Police assigned to Tijuana, Baja California, arrested 65 drug traffickers, including three Americans, all of whom have been turned over to the Federal Public Ministry. The confiscated contraband includes: 6 kilos of cocaine, 1 ton of marihuana, 683 grams of heroin, 2,878,800 toxic pills, 87 grams of opium, 2 kilos of "Corte" [cut drugs], 23 land vehicles, 1 light plane, 7 high powered firearms, 3 scales, 2 electric sealers and 3 hypodermic syringes. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 11 Feb 77 p 12-A] 8143

COLOMBIAN ARRESTED FOR TRAFFICKING--Mexico City, 23 Feb--Jaime Roa Escobar, a Colombian citizen, was arrested last night at the local airport on charges of attempting to smuggle 1.5 kg of pure cocaine into Mexico. The value of the narcotic was estimated at \$180,000. It was discovered in the false bottom of a suitcase which had arrived aboard an Avianca flight from Bogota, but which was still unclaimed. It was later discovered that the suitcase belonged to Roa, who booked passage on another flight and arrived the following day. Roa admitted that the cocaine was destined for the United States. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0233 GMT 24 Feb 77 PA]

HEROIN SEIZED--Mexico City, 24 Feb--A shipment of heroin with an estimated street value of \$4 million was seized in Culiacan today. A police source said the narcotic haul consisted of 3 kg of processed powder and 30 kg of the raw product. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0321 GMT 25 Feb 77 PA]

LAB CLOSED IN SINALOA--A clandestine heroin manufacturing laboratory which supplied groups of drug traffickers in a large area in the northwestern part of the country was discovered and shut down by Federal Judicial Police agents in the 6 de Enero barrio in Culiacan, Sinaloa. The lead to the location of the lab was obtained with the arrest of Ana Maria Merino de la Cruz, age 24, who was captured as she was delivering seven decks of heroin to drug addict Raul Garcia Ramirez. Both stated that they had obtained the drug from Manuel Lopez Ontiveros, age 22, who when captured confessed that the alkaloid had been manufactured by Felix Lopez Ontiveros in the lab, from which the police confiscated 1.030 kilos of heroin and the equipment used in the preparation of the toxic drug by chemist Leonardo Moreno Ruiz, who was also arrested. A little later, the same federal agents arrested Antonio Beltran and Jesus Arellanes Rodriguez who were responsible for the processing of opium gum to obtain heroin. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 25-A] 8143

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED AFTER SHOOTOUT--Puebla, Puebla, 14 Jan--After a shootout with the police, Epifanio Reyes, Raul Romero Cortes and Venancio Tellez Torres, were arrested for planting marihuana in land near the towns of Santa Catarina Otzolotepec. The police seized from the prisoners several bags of marihuana. The prisoners said that last July Julia and Miguel N contracted them to plant marihuana on that land. They said that Julia and Miguel came periodically to the plantings to gather marihuana in bags. They paid the prisoners 1,000 pesos per hectare that they planted. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 15 Jan 77 p 29-A] 8923

MARIHUANA SEIZURE IN SONORA--In Sonora, the Federal Judicial Police seized 4,305 kilos of marihuana in packages after arresting Juan Caseola Moreno, Roberto Martinez Contreras, Manuel Moreno, Salvador Hernandez Leyva and Celerino Cota Gil. The police took the prisoners by surprise while they were transporting in a Ford Camper pick up truck 1,250 kilos of cannabis indica. During the interrogation, the prisoners said that they were taking the grass to a warehouse for storage. Later it would be transported to the northeast of the country where they would sell it. They also said that in the town of Magdalena they had stored 3 tons 55 kilos of marihuana. The prisoners were placed at the disposal of the office of the federal prosecuting attorney in Hermosillo. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Jan 77 p 29-A] 8923

TRAFFICKER ESCAPED IN GUADALAJARA--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 13 Jan--Drug trafficker Andres Bernal Alvarez escaped when he was being taken to Oblatos penitentiary after testifying before the second district judge at the Federal Palace. Bernal Alvarez took advantage of a slip by the Federal Judicial Police agents who were taking him to the basement of the Federal Palace where their vehicle was parked. The drug trafficker ran to the Alcalde market where he hid among the people and eluded the police. Up to now, he has not been recaptured. Bernal Alvarez' file states that he was arrested by members of the Federal Judicial Police on 2 November 1976 while he was driving a Chevrolet pick up truck with Texas license plates in which he was carrying 336 packages of marihuana. The drug trafficker had confessed that he was taking the drug to McAllen, Texas where he was to deliver it to a man named Santos, who paid him \$60 a packet of 1 kilogram. The police remain silent about the escape of Bernal Alvarez, 29 years old. It is said that the custodians who were taking him to the Oblatos jail are being interrogated. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Jan 77 p 29-A] 8923

EGOZZI BEJAR ATTEMPTS SUICIDE--Jose Egozzi Bezar, the Cuban-American charged with drug trafficking, who, along with Alberto Sicilia Falcon, had attempted to escape from Lecumberri prison through a tunnel, yesterday tried to commit suicide in his cell in North Prison by cutting his wrists. He was taken quickly to the Inmates' Medical Center where he is a bed patient. He is in guarded condition, according to the doctors who treated him. In the prison, it was said that Egozzi cut his wrists while he was under the influence of some kind of drug. The Inmates' Medical Center reported that if there are no complications Egozzi Bejar, who has not yet made a statement, will be released in 1 week. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Feb 77 p 20-A] 8143

ARMY CAPTAIN SHAKES DOWN TRAFFICKERS--Acapulco, Guerrero, 11 Jan--Capt Enrique Garcia Najera, member of the 53rd Infantry Battalion, located in Acapulco, was placed in the custody of the Military Public Ministry, accused of extorting traffickers. The commander of the 27th Military Zone, Gen Salvador Rangel Medina, said that with this example it is hoped to put a halt to those subordinates who act outside the law. He stated that if there are other accusations against officers and men of the unit, equally severe measures will be taken against them. Garcia Najera arrested some narcotics traffickers in 1975 whom he later freed upon payment of 22,500 pesos, which the commander considered to be a crime and a breach of military ethics. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 12 Jan 77 p 21-A] 9015

DRUG HAUL, TRAFFICKERS ARREST--The judicial federal police have arrested Marcio Enrique Alvarez Velasquez, Jesus Alfredo Aguilar Medina and Oscar Cazares Rocha at the Tijuana international airport and seized 136 kg of cocaine and 5 kg of heroin they were carrying aboard a Cessna light plane. The traffickers were en route from Culiacan to the United States. [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 13 Feb 77 pp 1, 13 PA]

CSO: 5300

PANAMA

COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKERS CONVICTED

Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1427 GMT 1 Mar 77 PA

/Text/ Panama City, 1 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Four Colombians were sentenced here to 56 months in jail and to pay court expenses after they were found guilty of marihuana trafficking.

According to the report issued here today, the Colombians were involved in the case of the Panamanian registered ship Don Emilio, seized by U.S. authorities in October at the Panamanian Government's request after the security organizations here learned that a large drug shipment was aboard.

The ship had sailed from Cartagena, a Colombian port on the Atlantic coast, allegedly in route to the Dominican Republic and Canada with a shipment of plaster. But when the U.S. police inspected the ship they found several million dollars worth of marihuana.

The Colombians are Carlton Bent Hooker from San Andres Island, Leovigiloo Nunez Herrera from Arroyo de Piedra, Ernesto Bohorquez Reyes from San Antonio de Tena and Gustavo Gil Perez from Florencia.

Besides issuing the sentences, the Panamanian judge also ordered that the ship Don Emilio be turned over to the state.

CSO: 5300

PANAMA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZURE--Panamanian narcotics agents have arrested three Mexican citizens bringing five bags of cocaine from Santa Cruz, Bolivia. This happened early in the morning of 26 February when two of the Mexicans, Humberto Hugues Carboni and Marco Antonio Yeomans Vingochea, arrived at Tocumen International Airport en route to Mexico. On their arrival they tried to avoid an inspection by custom officials. As a result, narcotics agents intervened and searched the two men, finding the five bags of cocaine hidden on them. An accomplice, Jesus Mario Villa Castillo, was arrested in a room at the Monteserin Hotel. Yeomans Vingochea has stated that he bought the cocaine in Cochabamba, Bolivia, for 2,500 balboas and that he had planned to sell it in Mexico. [Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 2300 GMT 28 Feb 77 PA]

CSO: 5300

PERU

BRIEFS

CANINE DRUG DETECTORS--Yesterday specially trained dogs began their drug detection duties at the Jorge Chavez International Airport. The dogs use their sense of smell in their tasks as they move about among the baggage. A spokesman for the Civil Guard revealed that this service will soon be extended to all of the country's commercial airfields. Five dogs, led by Civil Guard personnel, began their tasks by sniffing suitcases and flight bags. Two of these animals are trained to attack persons who attempt criminal actions. Civil Guard Capt Juan Carlos Garcia Molleda, chief of the officers who are handling the dogs, said that there are nine trained dogs. In the meantime, the five dogs moved about in the baggage rooms of the airport sniffing all of the suitcases. As the reader may recall, a short time ago at the Jorge Chavez airport there was a demonstration of the ability of dogs to detect drugs. The use of the animals aroused the curiosity of those present who praised the dogs' ability to perform their assigned tasks. /Text/ /Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 2 Feb 77 p 1/ 8143

DRUG ADDICTS ARRESTED--Several persons were arrested in La Victoria for using drugs. The Civil Guard has in its possession several marihuana "joints" and "cakes" of cocaine. These individuals said that they had bought the drugs in various places in the capital but refused to provide the names of the dealers. During a police action which took place in apartment 2, 678 Renovacion Street, the Civil Guard found the following persons in a totally drugged condition: Octavio Girao Garay, Jose Luis Barrera Guzman, Maria Rosa Alzamora Oporto and Beatriz Sata Pacheco Milichichi. When they were searched, the police found "joints" and "cakes" on them. Later, at 0400 hours, Radio Patrol officers, at the request of residents in the 6th block of Prolongacion Sucre Street, arrested Cesar Ramirez Ojeda and Jorge Saric Ibarra who were fighting in the middle of the street after having taken drugs. /Text/ /Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 1 Feb 77 p 19/ 8143

PIP CAPTURE TRAFFICKERS--More than 40 kilos of basic cocaine paste worth 2 million soles were confiscated by the Peruvian Investigative Police /PIP/ from the members of a dangerous ring of drug traffickers whose laboratory was operating clandestinely in the city of Huancayo. The ring was made up

of repeat offenders Bernardo Hurtado Rosales, Pio Cipriano Resinas Condor, Juan Mauricci Torres, Heegel Cotrina and Dionisio Chavez. The last two persons are at large. The police first arrested Hurtado and Resinas Condor at the corner of Los Proceres and Ancash Avenues in the city of Huancayo. Later, PIP Superior Police Inspector Manuel Aguirre Enriquez, Departmental Chief, and Deputy Commissioner Julio Castro Costa raided the clandestine laboratory located in the Carhuamayo (Junin) district. There they found 40 kilos of cocaine paste, distillation equipment, retorts, an oven and other equipment for the maceration of coca leaves and their conversion into coca paste. The manufactured cocaine was sold in the country and abroad. /Text/ /Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Feb 77 p 14/ 8143

COCAINE TRAFFICKER'S ARREST--The Callao Civil Guard has captured 26-year-old drug trafficker Pablino Bedrinana Callirgos. They found 1.5 kg of basic cocaine paste in his home. [Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 9 PA]

SEIZURE OF 100 KG COCAINE--Mexicans Jose Luis and Jose Rigoberto Batiz Salcedo have been arrested on charges of drug trafficking. Peruvians Martin Cruz Zacarias Barba Ludena, Maro Vasquez Vasquez and Wilson Rios Barbaran were also arrested in connection with the same case. The traffickers tried to ship 100 kg of cocaine to Mexico aboard a light plane that was to take off from the airport at Tingo Maria. The plane and its cargo were seized by the police. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 35 PA]

DISCOVERY OF COCAINE LABORATORY--Cusco, Peru, 22 Feb--The civil guard of Quillabamba has dismantled a clandestine cocaine laboratory in the sector of Pintobamba Chico on property owned by Carmen Quispe Sane. Enough material was discovered to produce at least 2 kg of basic cocaine paste. The civil guard arrested Mamerto Aguilar Capatinta, Luis Flores Masias, Efrain Quispe Tapia and Maria Salome Flores de Aguilar. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 16 PA]

FIVE COCAINE TRAFFICKERS--With the help of specially trained dogs, the civil guard of La Victoria has arrested five persons with cocaine in their possession. They are Jose Diaz Chumber, Clemente Pastor Parra, Jorge Navarro Berroa, Tomas Carrillo Delgado and Manuel Kanashiro Kanashiro. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Feb 77 p 35 PA]

CSO: 5300

ALGERIA

BRIEFS

SENTENCE COMMUTED--REUTER--Harry Calleia, 47, the Pembroke-born Londoner under sentence of death by firing squad in Algeria for drug trafficking, has had his sentence commuted under a clemency order announced yesterday. He was sentenced 19 months ago. Calleia was accused of being a ring-leader in a drug smuggling network cracked in 1974. Police detained 67 foreigners as they carried hashish from Morocco through Algeria en route to West Europe. [Text] [London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 22 Jan 77 p 3]

CSO: 5320

FRANCE

REASONS FOR NEW HEROIN ALERT NOTED

Paris LE FIGARO in French 4 Feb 77 p 9

[Article by Serge Chauvel-Leroux: "New Heroin Alert: Increased Traffic in France." Passages in slantlines are in boldface in the text.]

[Text] /A new drug alert is out for Europe and, indeed, for the United Nations, where the international office of narcotics control recently published its annual report:/ "While progress has been made throughout the world, the growth of traffic in Western Europe is seriously disturbing." /Indeed, the traffic in Indian hemp is still very heavy, while cocaine dealing is on the rise. In addition, more and more heroin can be had on the European markets. Thus, the number of deaths from heroin overdose has been increasing sharply in West Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland as well as in France./

Since early last year, the threat was known to be real. Now all the indicators are in agreement: heroin has reappeared in France, and a few arrests announced with great fanfare, as in Nice, for example, can no longer suffice to cover up this infestation, which has become chronic and "rampant."

Faced with this situation, Commissioner Andre Soleres of the Paris narcotics brigade has sounded a new alarm. According to some, we are, in fact, witnessing a switch by small consumers from soft drugs (hashish, marihuana) to the dread drug known as "brown sugar."

The price of the strong and dangerous brown Asiatic heroin has been subject to a veritable "dumping" operation (it can be found at 150 francs a gram in Paris as opposed to 350 francs 6 months ago), while soft drugs are rapidly disappearing from the market (possibly as the result of a deliberate maneuver?).

The result is an entire generation of adolescents for whom soft drugs had become routine and who, for the last 3 or 4 months, have been coming, one by one, to join the sad mass of wrecks that will lie broken for a long time on the shoals of heroin: the number of heroin addicts, which, in early

1976, accounted for only 10 percent of the people interrogated by the narcotics squad has suddenly grown to 30 percent of the total.

/"The recurrence of pharmacy break-ins during the years when there was no heroin clearly indicated to me that the demand was still there,"/ said Commissioner Soleres. /"Suddenly, in the last weeks of 1975, we sensed something...."/

It was the beginning of the arrival, via Amsterdam, of the Asiatic heroin.

Commissioner Soleres continued, /"The nature of this traffic was immediately bound to cause us problems: we were no longer up against long supply lines that we might have managed to break, given the patience and information, as was done in Marseilles: the structure of the new traffic no longer allows us to make those huge hauls. We have to start at the bottom, with the addicts themselves, and work up to the suppliers, who are most often young people who regularly go to Amsterdam to stock up and who hardly sell more than a few grams at a time any more, as used to be the case for hashish."/

Since mid-1970, Commissioner Soleres thinks, this small-scale traffic has been taken over by a North African underworld operating near Belleville. These groups, much like those of the addicts, are very hard for the police to penetrate.

For the last year, however, police manpower has been reinforced, and the "junkies" officers have even begun to "blend in" with the people they work among, so much so, the commissioner says, that some days he has trouble telling his men apart from the suspects they bring in for interrogation.

Now, he thinks, everything that made up the drug ideology of 1970 (psychedelics, love power, etc.) and that limited drug consumption to marginal groups has completely disappeared: from now on, drugs may, potentially, concern very diverse groups in society. In this respect, the provinces and the suburbs may be threatened even more than Paris.

What will be the outcome of this situation, which is, at the moment, only getting gloomier? Everything will depend on the vigor with which the Dutch authorities will be able to stop the Amsterdam "sprinkler." Dutch traditions and institutions explain, for the moment, their delay in reacting. The presence in Amsterdam and Rotterdam of large colonies of immigrants from Asia and Surinam, many of whom are living completely underground, is also one of the causes of the inertia that the Dutch police have been charged with. As for the effectiveness of the various methods of reintegrating addicts into society, after they have decided to go that route, many specialists have, after 3 or 4 years of experience, practically given up on it.

One thing is still certain: time is short. The flood of heroin is still recent--3 or 4 months; 3 or 4 months that normally make up the "flirting time" of the new heroin addict with the hard drug; 3 or 4 months, after which, if nothing is done, he will really be "hooked" and join, in their indifference, that whole generation of new addicts that is presently growing right before our eyes.

FRANCE

DRUGS SEEN RETURNING 'IN FORCE'

More Victims Near Caen

Paris L'HUMANITE in French 5 Feb 77 p 12

[Article: "Drugs' Disturbing Return in Force: Two More Victims Near Caen"]

[Text] Alain Michel was 25; Jean-Yves Lippeau, 20. They died on the night of 20-30 January of an "overdose." The body of Alain Michel was discovered on 3 February near a little village about 10 kilometers from Caen; Jean-Yves Lippeau's body was found in a wood near Cabourg.

The investigators are keeping very quiet about the circumstances of these deaths. However, it does seem that last Saturday night and Sunday morning, several young men got together for a "drug party" in a studio apartment rented by one of the sons of Mr Jean-Marie Girault, senator-mayor of Caen. The morning after, two of the party-goers did not wake up. Panic-stricken, their friends took their bodies to the country, where they abandoned them.

The police were alerted by the parents of the two victims when they became concerned over their sons' absences.

The inquest was able to apprehend a notorious drug addict and drug supplier to the young men. This individual finally gave an account of the tragic night. From the direction he gave, the police found the bodies of Alain Michel and Jean-Yves Lippeau, both of whom were from families of modest means.

Drugs in School

Two teaching assistants at the Pasteur school, in Dole, were sentenced to 3-15 months and to 3 years in prison, respectively.

The first was accused of introducing young people to drugs; the second, for supplying hashish, marihuana, LSD and heroin to the pupils of Mont-Rolland and Pasteur schools.

In April 1976, the police questioned 33 pupils, boys and girls of 15-18, whose behavior had attracted the attention of school authorities.

When asked, some of the pupils said they had used drugs only once.

Judge Renaud's Son Sentenced

Roland Renaud, age 26, son of a judge in Lyons who was assassinated in July 1975, was sentenced by a Geneva court to a full 28 months in prison for selling drugs.

He was accused of importing into Switzerland 40 grams of morphine and 28 grams of heroin bought in Amsterdam.

Shortly before his death, Judge Renaud had jailed his son in Lyons because he had found him smoking hashish.

Senator-Mayor's Son Indicted

Paris L'HUMANITE in French 7 Feb 77 p 12

[Text] Uproar in Caen, where 2 men died after taking narcotics; uproar again in Belfort, where pupils in a boys' lycee were taking drugs. The illness is gaining, everywhere. As in the United States, it is beginning to acquire the dimensions of a plague.

The sellers prefer to prey on the young. Drugs are sold in most lycees, whether in Paris or the provinces, and the so-called soft drugs are being replaced more and more by hard drugs. In one year, the proportion of heroin addicts increased 20 percent.

At Caen, a "drug party" ended in tragedy. Alain Michel, 25, divorced, father of a 4-year old child, and Jean-Yves Lipot, 30, a worker at SAVIEM [Expansion unknown], died of an overdose in the night of 30-31 January. Their bodies were discovered last Thursday and Friday, abandoned in the country.

Following an inquest, 4 indictments were brought. They may be followed by several others.

Saturday afternoon, Judge Moitie, who is presiding over the case, indicted Vincent Girault, 19, son of the senator-mayor (RI [Independent Republican]) of the town on charges of violating narcotics laws, concealing deaths and failing to assist a person in danger. The tragic event took place in the studio apartment that he was subletting with 2 friends. He was not present on the night in question. However, on Sunday morning, when he discovered the body of 1 of the 2 victims, he yielded to panic and, recruiting a few friends, helped transport the body to a wood about 10 kilometers away.

The initial phase of the inquest indicated that drug parties frequently took place in the studio apartment rented by Vincent Girault, who, according to his mother, took drugs occasionally. It appears that on the night of 30-31 January, 4 or 5 people were in the apartment.

In commenting on the case, Mrs Girault denounced the laxity of public authorities, saying pointedly, "For some months I had been trying to stop this drug traffic through some information that I had, but to no avail. It's still being sold, and you really get the impression that nothing is being done to put a stop to this situation."

The mayor of Caen, having deplored the fact that it took 2 deaths to arouse the police and judicial system, stated that for 9 months he had been calling for "as thorough investigations as possible to be carried out in certain quarters."

As for the Caen drug circle, rumors have it that some of the 4 people still being sought may no longer be alive.

About 15 pupils in the last 2 grades of the Belfort lycee who had been taking drugs have been called in by police. An assistant and his girl friend, a daughter of a teacher at the lycee, who were supplying drugs, have been indicted but released.

An investigation was opened following a complaint made by the parents of a pupil who had been taken ill after using narcotics.

8782

CSO: 5300

FRANCE

DRUG RINGLEADERS REMAIN FREE IN SHADOWS

Paris L'HUMANITE in French 8 Feb 77 p 12

[Article by Rene Pichelin: "Drugs: the Ringleaders Stay in the Shadows; Some Pushers Are Arrested, but the 'Big Wheels' Are Still Safe and Sound"]

[Text] Montbeliard, Belfort, Caen, the Paris region.... Almost every day brings a new tragedy: drug users dead, pushers arrested, and young addicts discovered.

Yesterday, the region of Montbeliard, in the department of Doubs, made the headlines. A young woman, Mrs Jacqueline Buatois, 25, an English teacher at the Voujeaucourt CES [Expansion unknown], was arrested and then released under judicial control (she is the mother of two children) for trafficking in drugs. Investigators found in her home cocaine, opium and hashish.

Unlike the drug case at the Belfort boys' lycee, where an assistant and his girl friend were indicted, it does not appear that Mrs Buatois sold drugs to her pupils.

The other episode in these distressing events involves the consequences of the Caen affair, in which two young men died from an overdose of drugs and 4 people have been indicted. The senator-mayor RI, Mr Jean-Marie Girault, whose son Vincent, 19, is among the indicted, has declared his intention to request an audience with the president of the Republic to obtain the means to combat drug merchants.

Mr Girault has also, he says, talked about this with Mr Poniatoski, but the interior minister has proven less talkative than in the Broglie case. It would be very hard for him (and for good reason) to claim that the drug case is closed for good and that justice has only to take its course.

This is not a matter of law but a blot upon society.

There Are Only Victims

No job, studies unrewarded, these are spiritual and material hardships that are hard to overcome when people think they have to confront them alone,

and when the motivation of conscious, organized, daily struggle is lacking, the reasons become numerous to seek what Baudelaire called the "artificial paradises."

It is characteristic of the drug culture that it most often comes out of groups (fortunately rather limited in number) that are more attached to nihilistic ideas than to ideas that inspire the necessary political struggle for the right to live. The problem is that their followers are generally young people who are completely disoriented in a society that is crushing them and who have not yet learned life and struggle.

From Mrs Bautois to the pupils in the Belfort lycee or the indicted and dead men of Caen, there are only victims. They chose drugs as others choose suicide.

That is what makes the phenomenon so serious; all the more so because it is growing.

Dr Olievenstein, director of the Marmottan medical center (created in 1971 and specializing in the admission and care of addicts), noted in his 1976 report the worsening and spread of the problem: "explosive reappearance of heroin, increase in the number of deaths, massive increase in the number of users...."

In 6 years, 5,774 drug users have come to Marmottan. The number of new cases registered each year rose from 1,192 in 1975 to 1,491 in 1976. The total number of consultations rose from 11,240 to 12,026 in a year's time, while the number of hospitalizations doubled (from 270 to 549).

Dr Olievenstein estimates that 40 young people known at Marmottan were killed by drugs last year.

The System and Its Friends

The director of the center attacks in his report "a certain smug optimism that accounts, in part, for the lack of the political will to understand and, thereby, to combat the spread of drugs."

Perhaps we should reverse the assumptions of the problem and stress the political will of those in power to avoid touching that which creates the use of drugs. That would be to challenge the capitalist system itself and a number of its most vital and active supporters: politician-hoodlums or hoodlum-politicians.

The manufacturers, the owners of the laboratories that heroin and cocaine come from, the "brains" of the distribution networks that deal in kilos or tens of kilos, the "big wheels," in a word, are still whiling away peaceful hours when they are not distracted by some elective mandate or camouflaged behind some honorary title.

Customs inspectors are seizing more drugs in the ports and airports, but the drug market is growing deeper in France and is now widely offering a dangerous product, "brown sugar," harder than heroin and filled with impurities, a violent poison for the body and also for the mind. It comes to us from America.

It is doubtful that the interior minister will someday call a press conference to hold forth on this aspect of "free enterprise."

8782

CSO: 5300

ITALY

COMMUNIST YOUTH SPONSORS ANTI-DRUG CONVENTION

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 15 Feb 77 p 2

[Text] At the conclusion of the national convention on drugs, the FGCI [Italian Communist Youth Federation] issued a document in which some measures are proposed for immediate action by democratic forces and institutions against the increase in drug traffic and use (while maintaining the general directives established during the convention).

The proposals pertain to the legislative, social-health and political aspects of the problem.

Legislation

a) Improvement of national law 685 on the regulation of narcotics and hallucinogens and elimination or modification of some of its articles: In particular, it is proposed again (as the communists had previously proposed during the last legislature) to institute "probation" for small scale dealers, to eliminate any ambiguity and possibility of abuse in the regulations on compulsory hospitalization and to present clear regulations on the problem of alcoholism (regulations pertaining to the sale and prohibition of high alcohol content beverages);

b) initiative by the political forces for the preparation of valid laws for the application of national law 685 in all the regions;

c) resumption and development of a strong unitary initiative for the immediate launching of health reforms and for the expansion of social and health services operating in the territory under the control of all the social forces and of all citizens;

d) modification in depth of the Stammati decree concerning the limits on expenses by local offices: In addition and consulting room cases, the regions must be allowed to utilize the sums previously allocated by the state, implementing the social and health services of the municipalities and provinces.

Local Offices and Services

- a) Concrete discussion within the services of the type of therapy proposals to be formulated, rejecting actions of a specialized or ghetto-creating type on one hand (the famous "centers" for drug addicts) and easy but useless and often harmful therapies (of the type in which methadone is administered at clinics) on the other hand;
- b) Fighting for full implementation of the part of law 685 which concerns intervention of courts and health services, thus putting into practice, completely and everywhere, the provisions concerning the non-punishability of use and the right of cure within the regular health organizations;
- c) Contribution to the development of research programs and involvement on the part of local organizations, capable of developing (as in the case of the Piedmont Region) outside the social and health service, at the level of the large youth groups and of concentrating their efforts in the poorest and most disunited quarters which are the main source of emargination and maladjustment in the youth.

Mass Initiative

- a) Promotion among the youth, especially of the urban lower classes, of a broad and concrete discussion on the problems of the use and abuse of alcohol, hallucinogens and narcotics and of the significance and political effects of their diffusion;
- b) Development of specific actions, especially in the most disunited areas of large cities, for the fight against the diffusion of drug addiction: A fight which must be based not only on reliability of information but also on the effort in the preparation, at a basic level, with or without the assistance of the experts but in direct contact with the troubled youth, of alternatives to the wrong and counterproducing answers which lead to the use of drugs;
- c) Promotion of actions for collaboration with police forces in order to effectively coordinate the fight against drug traffic: These actions must be capable of operating also as mass control of the activities of the latter.

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CSO: 5300

ITALY

GENOA PHYSICIAN ARRESTED 40 DRUG USERS DETAINED

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 15 Feb 77 p 8

[Text] Genoa, 14 Feb--A doctor arrested, 40 drug users detained, 50 surprise raids in clinics, residences, doctor's offices, pharmacies and the CIAD [expansion unknown] anti-drug center in the radical party, constitute the balance of a massive police action performed last night by 350 agents and 20 officials acting on the order of the substitute district attorney, Mario Sossit. The physician arrested is Riccardo Brughera, 62, residing in the port area at Via Palestro 14 with his office at the same location.

Brughera is employed at the first aid emergency room for the port area on San Benigno Way under the lantern.

The doctor was arrested this morning at 0600 on a warrant issued by Justice Sossi upon completion of the police operation. He is accused of signing an average of 50 to 100 prescriptions per day. He allegedly prescribed medicines containing mostly morphine. The doctor charged only 3000 lire for each prescription given.

Probably the arrests of other doctors accused of helping drug users by prescribing medicines containing morphine will follow.

Four of the persons held by the police were sent to the Marani prison under arrest. Two other doctors have been reported for dealing in narcotics.



Riccardo Brughera, the doctor arrested at Genoa

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ITALY

BRIEFS

MILAN HEROIN ARREST--Milan, 26 Feb--Customs officials at the Linate Airport arrested Vincenzo Campanazzi, age 26, for concealing 4 kilograms of heroin, for a street value of at least 1 billion lira, in a false-bottom suitcase. [Text] [Rome L'UNITA in Italian 27 Feb 77 p 5]

CSO: 5300

NETHERLANDS

DUTCH NARCOTICS OFFICER TO FIGHT HEROIN TRADE FROM BANGKOK

To Have Diplomatic Status

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 27 Jan 77 p 3

[Text] Amsterdam, 27 Jan--"I am not shunning danger and thus I am also not so prone to fear." So saying, yesterday at noon, Commissioner G. F. de Gooijer introduced himself to the press. At the beginning of March De Gooijer will be leaving for Bangkok to collaborate with the local police there in the struggle against heroin smuggling.

The 33-year-old commissioner who is still acting as the chief of the National Fireweapons Center (CRI) [Central Research Information Center] will have a diplomatic status in Thailand. He thinks that with such a status he will be able to move about more freely: "As a policeman I would have to look for legitimate reasons all the time, and that is not advantageous for my work."

De Gooijer suspects that his work in Thailand will be more dangerous than it has been in Holland. "So here, too, I will be on board an airplane or in an auto and anything can happen there, perhaps in a different manner."

When asked why a weapons expert is being sent to the Thai capital, De Gooijer remarked that he has behind him 10 years of research work in Amsterdam, including the work he performed at the Warmoestraat Bureau in the center of Amsterdam's hot spot and the Chinese quarter.

The Center

He stated that Bangkok was chosen as the seat of operation simply because for the last 1 and 1/2 to 2 years it has grown to be the world's biggest heroin trading center.

As soon as he gets there De Gooijer will get in touch with the local police and with the American and British drug combatting entities. Although his

main task will be to gather information on heroin in behalf of Dutch investigation entities, he will be exchanging information with his foreign colleagues, "because," as De Gooijer says, "the heroin problem is of world concern."

When remarks about corruption among the Thai police were made De Gooijer stated: "We shall certainly bear that in mind and look into it further." Although he will be having a definite assignment in Bangkok, he will also have full opportunity to visit other countries where heroin is produced.

De Gooijer (his direct chief will be the ambassador) views his work mostly as a research technician: "coordination and information." He will not be able to carry out any arrests. The length of his stay in the "Golden Triangle" has not been determined.

De Gooijer will be forwarding his initial findings to Minister Van Agt as soon as possible. "If it starts to look as though I will not be able to do the job alone then it is possible that a second, third and even a fourth man may also be sent here." But such reinforcements are not now in order, according to De Gooijer.

Thai To Cooperate

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 21 Jan 77 p 3

[Text] The permanent police official which Holland is sending to Bangkok for coordinated action against the export of heroin to Europe and to important distribution centers in Amsterdam is to be attached to the Netherlands Embassy in Bangkok. He is being delegated there at the level of commissioner/chief inspector and will be holding the title of first embassy secretary in Thailand's capital city.

This was announced yesterday by Minister Van Agt (Justice) upon his return from a trip lasting about 2 weeks which also included a visit to the plantation area for raw opium in the so called "Golden Triangle" in Southeast Asia (in northern Laos, Thailand and Burma).

In Bangkok, by far the most important export point of heroin to the United States and Europe, the government official obtained a promise for stricter export controls from the Thai police.

On its part the Thai Government promised to discuss with Minister Pronk (Development Aid) the possibility of Dutch financial aid for substitute agricultural projects in the affected regions. According to Master Van Agt there is a great deal of interest in Europe, including France and the Federal Republic, for a package of this sort by way of a development project.

In Hong Kong the Dutch minister there has made arrangements for making it easier for those Chinese from this city now residing in Holland illegally,

to be sent back here. Since October 1976 there has been more intensive action in Holland against such illegal residents.

According to Van Agt "a rough estimate" shows that at least 500,000 kilograms of raw opium are produced annually in the "Golden Triangle"; 80 percent of this in Burma, and 10 percent each in Laos and Thailand. This quantity is good for about 50,000 kilograms of heroin, half of which is consumed within the region itself.

Key Function

Of the remaining 25,000 kilograms, 5,000 kilograms are going to the United States and 20,000 kilograms to Europe, mainly by way of Bangkok. Most of the shipment to Europe goes to Amsterdam, which is the place of distribution. "Holland has a key function" according to Van Agt. Moreover, the minister maintains that much heroin is getting to dealers in our country by way of Germany, France and Belgium, "because Schiphol is saturated with pot."

This government official is of the opinion that in the long range the recent increase in the maximal punishment in Holland for dealers in hard drugs, namely from 4 to 12 years, will have no effect in discouraging this business in Amsterdam. The rapid increase of the past few years in the amount of heroin confiscated in Holland and the rapid increase in the number of addicts are regarded by Van Agt as a clear indication of the growing seriousness of the problem which prompted his trip to Southeast Asia.

Assumes Post 1 March

Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 26 Jan 77 p 3

[Text] Commissioner G. F. Gooijer, Chief of the National Fireweapons Center in Raamweg at The Hague, will be assuming the job of combatting the smuggling of heroin to Holland in Bangkok as of 1 March. He will be getting the rank of first embassy secretary at the embassy in Bangkok.

Several years ago before he took the job of heading the Fireweapons Center CRI (Central Investigation Information Service) Mr De Gooijer, who is now 33 years old, was chief inspector and chief of investigation at the IJtunnel Office in Amsterdam. In addition he worked at the Aliens Service and also at the Warmoeestraat Office in the Capital.

De Gooijer will be trying to cut down the smuggling of heroin in collaboration with the local authorities at this detached police post in the Thai capital. With the information he will be providing, Dutch investigation should be able to have more success in its measures against drug couriers.

No time has been set for the duration of his stay in Bangkok. Currently there are no plans for sending a second man to Bangkok or to any other place in the "Golden Triangle."

NETHERLANDS

BRIEFS

HASHISH SEIZED--Middelburg, The Netherlands (REUTER)--Police raiding a farm house have seized the Netherlands' biggest haul of imported hashish, worth about \$3.5-million. A police spokesman said the 4.5-ton consignment from Morocco was captured at Heinekenszand in the southwest after a tipoff. A boat that brought the hashish into the country was shadowed and 50 police took part in the swoop on the farm after it was unloaded. Three Dutchmen and two Belgians were arrested. [Text] [Toronto THE GLOBE AND MAIL in English 31 Jan 77 p 2]

CSO: 5320

SWITZERLAND

GENEVA UNDECIDED ON NEW ANTIDRUG LAW

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 13-14 Feb 77 p 18

/Text/ Geneva, 11 February (SDA)--The drug problem was on the agenda of the Great Council of Geneva today. The head of the Justice and Police Department of the Canton of Geneva, Councilor Guy Fontanet, in the course of a debate about the draft of a new law against the abuse of drugs, had to defend himself against the charge that the government was making light of the scourge of drugs.

According to Councilor Fontanet, Geneva police in the past year confiscated 46 kilograms of hashish, 21.5 kilograms of opium, 12.5 kilograms of marijuana, 1.8 kilograms of cocaine and 1.5 kilograms of heroin. The drug problem occupied the police virtually around the clock. At the same time, the head of the Justice and Police Department said it was not true that Geneva had become a turntable of the international drug trade in the past few years.

In the preliminary debate, the draft law was sent back to the commission for redrafting. In its present form, the law provides for a "drug council" charged with informing the authorities and the public on a continuing basis about developments in the drug problem. In addition, the "drug council" would have the task of coordinating state, semistate and private activities against the abuse of drugs.

In his remarks, Councilor Fontanet also covered the recidivism of drug addicts after withdrawal cures. He said that 85 to 90 percent of drug addicts interned in the St Antoine Prison in the past 2 years were recidivists.

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CSO: 5300

SWITZERLAND

POLICE SMASH INTERNATIONAL DRUG SMUGGLING RING

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 10 Feb 77 p 4

Text Zurich, 8 February--During recently completed investigations, it was established that in nine drug transports during the period of 1972-1976 a band of 21 Czechoslovak expatriates had shipped altogether more than 1 ton of hashish as well as 140 kilograms of hemp oil--corresponding approximately to 1.7 tons of hashish--from Morocco to Canada. During the last transport, altogether 110 kilograms of hemp oil and 447 kilograms of hashish were confiscated at Sete in southern France and in the Spanish town of Valencia. In this connection, five members of the band were arrested in Toronto, two in Sete and 11 in Zurich. The main culprit, one Branislav Fencel, is now a fugitive; he had been released on 80,000 Canadian dollars' bail in Toronto.

The activity and smashing of this dope-smuggling ring, the biggest in our country's history (all but one member of the gang being residents of Switzerland), were the subject of a press conference given in Zurich on Tuesday 8 February by representatives of the Zurich cantonal police and the responsible district attorney, Dr Irma Weiss.

At Least Nine Drug Shipments

It was announced that at the end of May last year, on a tip by the Zurich cantonal police, five Czechoslovaks had been arrested by local police in Toronto, with 30 kilograms of hemp oil in their possession. Contacts were established with persons in Switzerland. Then, at the beginning of June, in close cooperation with police of the cantons of St Gallen, Lucerne and Ticino, the first arrests in our country took place. In Zurich, altogether 11 persons were locked up. Before it was all over, two persons were arrested in Sete. All members of the ring long and persistently denied any guilt. Moreover, they tried to smuggle information from their prison and to exchange information among each other. After extremely long drawn out investigations, with Zurich as the center, it was established that between 1972 and 1976 the ring had engaged in at least nine drug shipments--possibly also between 1968 and 1976--transferring roughly 1,050 kilograms of hashish as well as 140 kilograms of hemp oil (corresponding to about 1.7 tons of hashish)

from Morocco to Canada. These are merely minimum proved amounts. During the last shipment, the arrests in Sete were made, in the wake of which 447 kilograms of hashish and 110 kilograms of hemp oil were confiscated in the southern French town and in Valencia; part of this--the oil and 260 kilograms of hashish--was seized at a camping ground near Valencia thanks to the investigations which had been conducted in Zurich.

Families as Smugglers

Most of the dope was shipped by the sea route from Morocco via south European places of consignment to the country of destination, Canada--hidden in automobiles and later in trailers. In each instance, a small part was shipped first to Zurich, and then from here to Canada. In order that the Canadian authorities, in releasing the vehicles, might not notice that the owners had been in Morocco, carrier personnel were switched in Europe, or their passports were forged. As a rule, married couples with children were given preference as carriers. The members of the ring themselves were not users of dope.

It is not yet clear what the profit was. Reportedly the price of hashish in Morocco was about 500 Swiss francs a kilogram, and a kilogram was sold for about 3,000 francs in Canada. The retail price of hashish in Canada, however, is about \$6,000 a kilogram, and about \$25,000 a kilogram for hemp oil. One thing is clear: several members of the gang had not worked for years and were living only off the drug profits. The accused used the money for buying expensive cars as well as for buying real estate in the Ticino or for big trips. Following the arrests, in our country alone wealth in the amount of about 1 million francs was confiscated.

District Attorney Dr Irma Weiss, in charge of the investigation, allowed herself to be questioned in detail about the members of the ring. Of the persons arrested in Zurich, six are still under arrest awaiting trial. Four of the accused are women. Three have children of school or preschool age. The age of all the accused ranges from 26 to 40; the men are all trained in technical professions. Only two were still employed at the time of arrest. Five have been sentenced previously in Switzerland, one of them six times. Two were already under criminal investigation, for fiscal offenses, at the time of arrest. Czechoslovakia is not giving out any information about previous records, if any, of the accused in their home country.

With one exception, the 20 accused residents in Switzerland were admitted to Switzerland in the period between September 1968 and summer 1969. In accordance with the desire of the Federal Council, Switzerland granted asylum to them under the then prevailing conditions by liberally interpreting the pertinent legal provisions.

Expulsion Possible

The provisions of the 1951 international agreement, which was also ratified by Switzerland, concerning the legal position of refugees guarantee these at least a privileged position among aliens. In accordance with the obligations which Switzerland had assumed when it ratified the agreement, the people now accused were also duly accorded preferential treatment everywhere, being immediately given accommodation and work.

In the view of the district attorney, the files show that not a single one of the main culprits is a refugee as narrowly defined by Article 1 of the agreement or according to the liberal interpretation prevailing at the time of admission to the country. None of the main culprits had left his home country out of a "sense of inner compulsion"; one of them, his wife said during the investigation, had moved away motivated by a sense of adventure. Dr Weiss described all the main culprits as adventurers, profiteers, gamblers in the largest sense of the word, who had taken advantage of their admission to the West for making sure that they pursued a varied, colorful and sparkling life.

The second most important man of the ring, who had been responsible for organizing most of the drug shipments, had hanged himself in his cell at Regensdorf, during arrest awaiting trial, in September last year.

Article 33 of the agreement concerning the legal position of refugees prohibits the expulsion and return of refugees. A refugee who has received asylum can be expelled only if he has to be regarded as endangering the security of the country of sojourn, if he constitutes a criminal threat to the country's society or has had a legally binding sentence passed against him for an offense. In that case, he can appeal to the Federal Council. In the cases in question, applications for expulsion would seem feasible in regard to Article 33, Paragraph 2, of the agreement, in accordance with Article 55 of the Swiss Penal Code.

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CSO: 5300

SWITZERLAND

POLICE SMASH HEROIN SMUGGLING RING

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 17 Feb 77 p 29

[Text] From May to November of last year the members of a band in Amsterdam consisting of 22 persons bought a total of 2.8 kilograms of heroin and smuggled it to Zurich--this emerged from a comprehensive police investigation. The band, which was led by a 17-year-old laborer, allegedly resold about 1 kilogram of "the stuff"; the delinquents consumed the rest of the heroin themselves.

Youth attorney Dr Francis Gautschi said in a press conference on Tuesday afternoon that the 17 year-old laborer was arrested on 11 November of last year, after his name was mentioned in the investigation of a drug case and they were able to establish heroin in this connection. It was then revealed in the course of the laborious investigation, that the arrested man was no "small fish," but rather that the youth was the actual head of a heroin-smuggling ring. Between May and November 1976 he himself procured about 2 kilograms of heroin in Amsterdam, which he smuggled into Switzerland in 17 trips, from time to time with other persons, using various means of transportation: automobiles, railroad, and airlines. According to his own statements he paid about 100,000 francs for it. He sold about a kilogram of these drugs to various persons--mainly fixers and retail dealers--for which he got about 230,000 francs. He needed the remaining kilogram for his own consumption, along with colleagues; the narcotic was not only injected but also smoked. The other 21 members of the band--all between 18 and 23 years of age, including 2 girls--partly procured heroin independently of their youthful chief and resold it on their own account, so that the total turnover of the band is estimated at about 2.8 kilograms. The black market value of this quantity runs to about 840,000 francs.

The purchase and importation were occasionally undertaken over the weekend, so that at least the "hard core" of the band led a practically perfect double life. In the opinion of the youth attorney this could have been ascertained by the parents--some of the accused still lived in the parental home--if only the family conditions in the households affected had been even "to some extent average." Until their arrests, all the members of the band went to regular work, even if they had increasing difficulties, with rising drug consumption, to maintain the "facade." The gang leader, whom Dr Gautschi described as an "agile, alert, and imaginative" lad, took up his business after he was shown by an experienced older colleague "how somebody goes about something like that."

MAGISTRATE SAYS GOOD SCHOOLS 'FAILED' DRUGS OFFENDERS

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 11 Feb 77 p 17

[Text] Good schools like Eton and Sherborne had done little for a peer's son, an MP's daughter, and five others caught up in a drugs ring, a magistrate said yesterday.

None of them could be described as well-educated, they were not healthy or happy, and they were ill-equipped to cope with life and those ready to exploit their weakness, said Mr Eric Crowther at West London Court.

He jailed George Brydges Rodney, 24, son and heir of Lord Rodney, for six weeks after he admitted supplying diamorphine to Christopher Lambert.

Rodney, a book salesman, of Pembroke Road, Kensington, also received a concurrent sentence of one month for having 11 milligrams of the drug.

Sophia Jane Cordle, 18, daughter of Mr John Cordle, Conservative MP for Bournemouth East, was remanded on bail after she admitted possessing a small amount of diamorphine.

Tragedy of Life

Mr Crowther said the case represented "a microcosm part of the tragedy of modern life. Of the seven dependants before me six have been mixed up with the deadly drug heroin, some as suppliers, some as takers, and some as both.

"Medical reports have been put before me, some of which indicate the progression from cannabis to LSD to heroin."

He told Rodney there was substantial mitigation in his case. "You have been very helpful and frank in every way with the police and I accept everything that has been said on your behalf in respect of your past and character."

Extremely Foolish

To Miss Cordle, whose address was given as Gate Private Hotel, North Kensington, he said: "You are hovering on the brink of disaster. You are not a wicked girl but you have been extremely foolish."

Anthony Scott, 24, an unemployed Old Etonian, of Fulham Road, Fulham, was jailed for eight months for supplying diamorphine to Rodney, with a concurrent three months in jail for possessing the drug. He admitted the offences.

Nicholas Muschamp, 21, unemployed, of Gate Private Hotel, was jailed for four months after he admitted supplying diamorphine, with a concurrent two months for possessing the drug.

Miss Nicole Poulet, 29, boutique manageress, of Callcott Road, Kilburn, was jailed for four months for supplying diamorphine to Muschamp. She pleaded guilty.

Cocaine Charge

Christopher Sebastian Lambert, 41, company director, of Elgin Crescent, Notting Hill, was sentenced to four months, suspended for two years, for possessing cocaine. He was fined 200 pounds on each of two charges of possessing diamorphine and amphetamine. He pleaded guilty to the charges.

Simon James Hollis, 21, student, of Atwood Road, Hammersmith, was fined 75 pounds for possessing 62 grams of cannabis. He pleaded guilty.

Charles Adam Calkin, 19, unemployed of Atwood Road, Hammersmith, was remanded on bail until April 7 after denying possessing diamorphine.

Vere Michael Scholfield, 24, labourer of Atwood Road, was remanded for bail to the same date accused of possessing cannabis.

CSO: 5320

COURT RULES POSSESSION OF CANNABIS SEED NOT ILLEGAL

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 24 Feb 77 p 19

[Article by Terence Shaw]

[Text] Possession of cannabis seed, though part of the "fruiting and flowering tops" of cannabis plants, is not an offence under the Misuse of Drugs Act, three Court of Appeal judges ruled yesterday.

It is the court's second judgment this year restricting the scope of the law controlling the use and possession of cannabis.

Last month three other judges held that a person found merely with a stalk and leaves of the plant could not be convicted of unlawful possession.

Yesterday Lords Justices Geoffrey Lane and Lawton and Mr Justice MacKenna quashed the convictions and set aside a three-year jail sentence imposed on Alvin Lorenzo Mitchell, 24, of Orpheus Tower, Desmond Street, New Cross, at Croydon Crown Court in September for possessing cannabis with intent to supply it and simple possession.

Ruling Welcomed

Dr Gillian Green, analyst, said substances found at Mitchell's home and in his car contained leaves and a stalk of the cannabis plant and a not insignificant proportion of seeds.

Resin could not be extracted from the seeds, which were available to the public for feeding wild birds and as bait.

The ruling was welcomed by a spokesman for Release, which has been campaigning for the possession and use of cannabis to be made legal. He said it confirmed a general view.

Last month's ruling is expected to be tested eventually in the House of Lords.

The defendant in that case, a 19-year-old local government clerk, is facing trial on further charges left on the file at Portsmouth Crown Court of possessing cannabinol derivatives, a Class A controlled drug.

UNITED KINGDOM

RECORD HEROIN HAUL BY CUSTOMS FROM MALAYSIAN SHIP

London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 28 Feb 77 p 1

[Article by T. A. Sandrock]

[Text] Heroin of good quality, estimated to be worth about 1,600,000 pounds on the addicts market, and the largest seizure ever made in Britain, has been found by Customs officers on a Malaysian ship in Queen's Dock, Cardiff.

The seizure was made on Saturday after the motor vessel Bunga Melor was searched by Customs rummage crew.

The total weight of the heroin is about 26 lb, but it is of high quality. This type of heroin can be "cut" up to eight or nine times, being mixed with various ingredients including brick-dust making the package sold to the addicts only about 10 per cent pure heroin.

Good Search Work

A Customs spokesman said they had received no tip-off about the heroin. "It was found simply because of the good search work by our preventive staff," he said.

"I think the heroin was probably bound for Rotterdam and not Cardiff--it was just a good break that we found it."

It is the second large haul of heroin by Customs this year. Last month 14 lb was discovered at Heathrow Airport. Last year, less than 23 lb of heroin was the total recovered by Customs officers.

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END